



Gov. Anoatubby will not seek U.S. Senate seat

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby quickly quashed speculation he might seek a U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Tom Coburn.

GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY Sen. Coburn is the junior senator from Oklahoma.

“While it is an honor to be mentioned as a possible candidate for Tom Coburn’s seat in the U.S. Senate, I have no plans to enter the race,” Gov. Anoatubby said. “I have much work still to do as Governor of the Chickasaw Nation. If it is the will of the Chickasaw people, I plan to continue my work in this position for the foreseeable future.”

Gov. Anoatubby was elected to office in 1987. He has served the Chickasaw people in the top leadership post for more than 27 years.

In addition to Gov. Anoatubby, another prominent Chickasaw was included on the list of potential candidates by state political pundits. Tom Cole, Oklahoma Fourth District U.S. Congressman, also said he would not be a candidate.

Chickasaw citizen and current Oklahoma Speaker of the House T.W. Shannon, R-Lawton, is seeking the seat. Read about Speaker Shannon’s campaign on page 3.

Chickasaw youth get ready to ‘Thunder Up!’

Beginning February 10, Chickasaw youth ages eight to 18 can register for a chance to join Chickasaw Nation Youth Services at Chesapeake Energy Arena in Oklahoma City as the Oklahoma City Thunder take on the Denver Nuggets in a great NBA matchup. The game is Monday, March 24 at 7 p.m.

A limited number of tickets are available and selections will be made by computer-generated drawing. All entries must be received by 5 p.m., Friday, March 7.

Those selected will be notified via e-mail or phone no later than March 14.

Transportation will be provided from Ada, Ardmore, Davis, Purcell and Tishomingo.

For more information, or to enter the drawing, contact Camps and Recreation at (580) 272-5716.

Education Fair set for Feb. 27 in Ada

The Chickasaw Nation will host an education fair on February 27 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center, 700 N. Mississippi in Ada, Okla.

Representatives from a number of universities, colleges and career technology centers will be on-hand to provide prospective students with information regarding financial aid, degree programs, courses of study, admissions and more.

This is a public event open to all students interested in pursuing a higher education degree or certificate.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Education Fair, contact education services at (580) 421-7711.

Tribes call for protection of Indian children



Gov. Bill Anoatubby speaks before a large audience at the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes Jan. 10 near Shawnee, Okla. The session was hosted by the Seminole Nation.

SHAWNEE, Okla. - Leaders of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes unanimously passed eight resolutions Jan. 10, one calling on the state of Oklahoma to provide better protection for Indian children facing adoption.

Tribal leaders moved to require parents of children with Native American heritage to wait 72 hours after the birth of the child to execute valid consent to the adoption or permanent relinquishment of child custody. They called upon the Oklahoma Legislature to amend state laws to fully comply with the national Indian Child Welfare Act and enact legislation to protect Indian children and strengthen Oklahoma adoption laws.

In addition, the Five Tribes called for laws restricting the father from executing “extrajudicial consent” to waive all legal interest prior to the child’s birth.

The council took issue with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services for contracting with the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children. The council asserted the agency is “private and has a financial interest in facilitating adoptions of Oklahoma children.”

Calling the arrangement “an unacceptable danger to Indian children and a conflict of interest for a private entity to administer such a program” when it served to gain financially from adoption.

SEE INTERTRIBAL, PAGE 2

Emily Dickerson raised family in ‘the old ways’

Chickasaw-only speaker cherished roles as mother, teacher



Emily Johnson Dickerson

Newspapers, websites, radio and television stations around the world noted the passing of Emily Johnson Dickerson because she was the last monolingual speaker of Chickasaw.

But Mrs. Dickerson saw herself as someone far more important. She was a mother.

Emily Johnson Dickerson passed from this life December

30, 2013.

Her son Carlin Thompson remembered her as the woman who “was always there” for him.

“We always had three meals a day,” Carlin said. “Mom cooked good, wholesome food, just about anything you could think of. She did a lot of canning – canned a lot of food – fruits and things like that.”

Mr. Thompson was raised in a two-room house with no running water or electricity near Kullihoma, with his mother, grandmother, uncles and an aunt.

“My mom used to have a loom at the old house, and they made quilts,” he said. “We didn’t have electricity so everything had to be hand sewn. We used to buy flour in a sack and mom would make clothes out of the sack.”

The family also grew much of the food for the table.

Virtually everything in Mr. Thompson’s life, including the garden his mother planted every year, revolved around Chickasaw

culture and language.

“They planted the three sisters along with potatoes, green beans, squash, corn, onions – onions are very important to Chickasaws – watermelon, cantaloupe,” he said. “We had rich soil. We didn’t use anything to enrich the soil. No fertilizer or anything. They just always knew how to plant a garden. The spirit was good.”

The family also harvested most of the meat for the table.

“We did a lot of fishing and killed rabbits and squirrels for meat,” Mr. Thompson said. “There weren’t many deer back then.”

Most of the money needed to buy other necessities was earned through day labor, picking cotton and pecans, cutting wood or harvesting broom corn.

“Still, as poor as we were, we were happy,” Mr. Thompson said. “They used to tell a lot of stories. We had a coal-oil lamp and they would tell stories. I would just sit and listen.

“Adults were speaking and I

kind of knew better than to interrupt them when they were speaking. I was taught that way.”

His mother and other family members taught Mr. Thompson much more than the importance of respecting his elders.

“Some of my oldest uncles, and my grandma and my mom, and some other uncles were our teachers,” he said. “We grew up in the old ways, the ancient ways.”

Those ways included ceremonies performed during the four seasons, as well as stomp dances

SEE EMILY JOHNSON DICKERSON, PAGE 2

Valentine Day events set for Feb. 8 at Cultural Center



Brooke Bolding, Ardmore, looks over the selection of Valentine cards at the 2012 Chickasaw Cultural Center Valentine’s Celebration event. Mary Gray

SULPHUR, Okla. - Celebrate your valentine in a unique way at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, Saturday, February 8 during the Valentine Day Celebration.

The family-friendly, “heart-warming” event features “sweet” activities including a card-making workshop and special stomp dance to commemorate the holiday. Children will receive free gifts, while supplies last.

Families can enjoy a free Valentine Day card workshop and Valentine cookie decorating activity from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Chickasaw Dance Troupe will demonstrate a special stomp dance at 11 a.m., and a family-friendly film will be screened at 3 p.m. in the Anoli’ Theater.

All crafts and the film are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Cultural Center at (580) 622-7103 or visit www.chickasawculturalcenter.com.

The Chickasaw Cultural Center is open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. The Chickasaw Cultural Center is located at 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road in Sulphur.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.



Ada, Okla., residents Phillip and Heather Prince welcomed their baby daughter Sadie Ray Prince at 1:43 a.m., Wednesday, January 1 at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada. Sadie was the first baby born in 2014 at the Medical Center. The Chickasaw baby girl weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 18 inches at birth. Also welcoming Sadie is big sister Audrina.

Sadie Ray Prince, born a bit after midnight, year’s first baby 2014

ADA, Okla. – Sadie Ray Prince, daughter of Phillip and Heather Prince, is the first baby of 2014. Baby Sadie was born at 1:43 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 1 at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. The Chickasaw baby girl weighed 6 lbs., 3 ozs., and measured 18 inches at birth.

“We welcome our bundle of joy into our now complete family,” Mrs. Prince said.

“I love feeding my Sadie Ray, she is so beautiful,” said her proud big sister, Audrina. She was very excited to have her new baby sister join the family.

“Well, there’s no doubt about

it,” Mr. Prince said. “We make beautiful babies and that’s just that.”

The couple received an infant car seat and a gift basket from the Medical Center to mark the occasion.

CONTRIBUTED BY Amber Carey, Public Affairs.

INTERTRIBAL | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tions, the council called for the Oklahoma Legislature to act.

Indian Country was rocked in mid-2013 by the U.S. Supreme Court’s controversial interpretation of the Indian Child Welfare Act. The Court awarded custody of a Cherokee youngster to non-Native parents in South Carolina after a protracted legal battle in both South Carolina and federal courts.

At a time when the U.S. Congress’ favorability numbers are at historic lows, tribal leaders gave it a pat on the back.

The council, which represents more than 500,000 Indian citizens of the Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw, Cherokee and Seminole tribes, commended lawmakers for bestowing Congressional Gold Medals to former World War II Code Talkers or their surviving descendants during National Native American Heritage Month. Code Talkers were exclusively Native American. They stymied enemy code breakers by merely speaking in their native tongues. Their

efforts are credited with saving countless lives of American and allied combat troops.

In other matters, the council:

- Urged action to put teeth in the American Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act of 1974 by changing definitions contained in the law. The council urged legislation to protect Native art by defining “American Indian Tribe” as any Indian tribe federally recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and “American Indian” as a person who is a citizen or enrolled member of an American Indian Tribe.
- Backed a plan to provide the U.S. Indian Health Service with advance appropriations to protect tribes and IHS from cash flow programs which occur at the beginning of the federal fiscal year due to delays in enactment of appropriation legislation and last-minute budget cuts. The council cited sequestration and last year’s “disastrous government shutdown” as directly affecting the budget shortfall and

harming IHS, tribal budget preparations, and Native Americans.

- Supported changes in the Internal Revenue tax code sponsored by Rep. Davin Nunes (R-Calif.) which amends the code to exclude gross income – for income tax purposes – the value of an Indian general welfare benefit. If the benefit is administered under specific tribal guidelines, does not discriminate and is a program available to all tribal members, leaders of the five tribes believe it should not be considered income. It urged passage of Rep. Nunes’ bill and urged President Barack Obama to sign it into law.
- Commended Oklahoma Rep. Mark Wayne Mullins, a Cherokee citizen and representative of Oklahoma’s 2nd Congressional District, for his efforts to honor Native American veterans with a memorial in Washington, D.C. His efforts will “help Native veterans finally be recognized with a memorial,” the council said. Mullins’ initiative became law Dec. 26, 2013.

- Recognized the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services with providing the Five Tribes \$1 million for nutrition education services. The council said “this funding can have a significant and direct impact on tribal efforts to provide healthy eating options to (our respective) food and distribution program participants.”
- Called for the Oklahoma Native American Liaison to become a cabinet position in Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin’s administration with the designation of the Oklahoma Secretary of Native American Affairs. In 2011, the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission was scraped as a cabinet-level post and about \$200,000 in funding was transferred to Gov. Fallin’s office. She recently appointed Kaw Nation citizen Jacque Hensley to the liaison position, but the post no longer enjoys cabinet-level status.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

EMILY JOHNSON DICKERSON | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and songs he has not shared outside his family.

“Now, I guess it’s only about three of us or four of us, who know a little bit about it,” he said.

Several others who lived in the Kullihoma area at the time, including Myrtle Brown, Bicy (sometimes spelled Vicy) Walker and Carrie Elsie Alexander Frazier spoke only Chickasaw and were also somewhat knowledgeable about herbal medicine.

Mrs. Frazier was the last Indian doctor in Mr. Thompson’s family.

“We didn’t have to go to the hospital when Bicy was alive,” he said. “Almost everybody I knew went to her – the same with Elsie.

“My mom was a doctor too. She doctored us. She wasn’t known as a doctor, I guess, but she would take care of us. She knew

a lot of the old ways about how to make medicine.”

There actually are many similarities, Mr. Thompson said, between the beliefs of Indian doctors and Christianity.

“It’s very similar,” he said. “After learning more about the Bible – reading more and knowing what I know about our Indian ways – I see so much parallel. It makes me feel good.

“My mom’s dad, Gibson Johnson, was a medicine man and a preacher. The real McCoy. Very, very knowledgeable.”

Being a medicine man (doctor) and a preacher go hand in hand, Mr. Thompson said, because both have a gift from the creator or God.

“Under the anointing of the Holy Spirit or under the anointing of God, things happen.”

Mr. Thompson learned some of the old ways from his relatives. However, he said much of that knowledge had been lost.

“If I just had half the knowledge my mom or grandma knew, I’d be in great shape,” he said.

While he is saddened that much of that knowledge has been lost, he said it is better than the alternative.

“A lot of those old medicine people take (the knowledge) with them,” he said. “They know that when they become a medicine man, a doctor, there are limitations on telling people things like that. There’s a reason for that.

“That’s something that’s real sacred. It’s a gift. It’s not to be played with. That’s why only a few people are taught. (Because) people can misuse it.”

Although his mother may have taken

some knowledge of the old ways with her, she did pass on many valuable life lessons, such as a love for others and a willingness to share.

“She would always feed everybody no matter who they were,” Mr. Thompson said. “People would come around there at lunch time hoping to get a meal. There were people who didn’t have a place to stay, and she would make a bed for them and they would stay the night, sometimes a few nights, then they would go on about their business.

“She had a good heart. She welcomed anybody.”

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, Media Relations.

Tribe’s Bank2 named ‘Top Workplace’ by *the Oklahoman*

OKLAHOMA CITY - Bank2 was recently honored as a top workplace by the state’s largest daily newspaper *the Oklahoman*.

A Chickasaw Nation-owned business, Bank2 was among 50 Oklahoma companies and organizations to be recognized in The Oklahoman’s “Top Workplace 2013” survey.

The Top Workplaces are recognized as good places to work and more likely to be successful than peer organizations.



Top Workplaces were determined by employee surveys about various places of work.

The award is one of the most significant for the bank, Bank2 president Ross A. Hill said, because the information and opinions came directly from the bank’s employees.

“We were ranked by the ones who really know what it is like to work at Bank2...the employees and only the employees,” Mr. Hill said. “How special is that?”

“We could only achieve such an award because of the employees. Achievements like this don’t just happen. The employees have to want to make Bank2 a great place to work. They have to challenge each other to excellence and they have to want to fulfill our mission of ‘Building Better Lives.’ Because we have unity and accountability, we have become absolutely the best,” he said.

Employee comments in the survey included “I feel appreciated and like my input matters. I also feel like the people I work with

are genuine and we all get along very well.”

Another staff member wrote, “I love the mission statement of helping people build better lives.”

“We build better lives. We make a difference. It is more about making a difference than making money,” another employee wrote.

Since opening in 2002, Bank2 has been distinguished with several awards and accolades including:

- 2011 recipient of the U.S. Department of Commerce Access to Capital Award for lending activities to Native American business.
- 2010 recipient of the Bank Enterprise Award from the Community Development Financial Institution Fund.
- Oklahoma Native American Business Development Center Service Business of the Year 2004.
- Oklahoma Native American Chamber Business of the Year 2004.
- Bank2 was named one of the Top 100 Native American-

Owned Businesses in the U.S. each year from 2005-2011 by Diversity.com.

- The number one source of Native American home loans in Oklahoma and one of the top lenders nationally.

About Bank2

Bank2 opened its doors as a community bank in 2002. The bank’s mission is to “Build Better Lives.” During its 12 years of operation, Bank2 has found a unique niche in the banking and lending market, and is rated a 4-Star Bank by BauerFinancial, an independent evaluator of financial institutions.

Bank2 specializes in providing home loans to Native Americans from Hawaii to Maine and from Alaska to Florida. Bank2 is a full service bank offering checking accounts, operation accounts, savings and money market accounts. The bank also offers a full line of consumer, commercial and real estate loans.

Bank2 was also recognized by the ABA Banking Journal as the number one and number three community bank in the nation in 2009 and 2010, respectively.

Bank2 is a subsidiary of the Chickasaw Banc Holding Company. The Holding Company and Bank2 are 100 percent owned by

the Chickasaw Nation. The bank has grown from \$7.5 million in assets in January 2002 to more than \$100 million today. Corporate offices are located at 909 S. Meridian in Oklahoma City. For more information, visit www.bank2online.com.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

This month on CNTV

American Heart Month
February is American Heart Month. This is a time to raise awareness on heart disease. The Chickasaw Nation Medical Center will host a heart health fair. Learn more about this event on CNTV.

New Year’s Baby
Also this month, meet Sadie Ray Prince, the first baby born in 2014 at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center!

Honored Elder
Chickasaw elder Thelma “Chincie” Ross was honored recently by city officials in Tuttle. Find out more about this extraordinary citizen this month on CNTV.

....and much more! New episodes are available on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Visit www.chickasaw.tv and click on the News channel to watch CNTV.

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Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author’s address.

Deadline for submission is the 22nd of each month prior to publication.

Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Chickasaw progress has been built on a bedrock foundation

There is a well-known 18th Century hymn titled “How Firm A Foundation.” This hymn was very popular in the 19th and early 20th Centuries, and remains a standard heard in churches today.

The lyrics of the second verse are, “I’ll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to stand, upheld by My gracious, omnipotent hand.”

Those words, of course, refer to the strength the Lord brings when He is made the foundation of a life.

We all understand that whether building our lives or building a house, a firm foundation is absolutely essential. It’s folly to build anything on “shifting sands.” Best to sink into the bedrock!

The Chickasaw Nation has a foundation that has been strengthened by the work of many Chickasaw hands. Our foundation is, without a doubt, rock solid.

Years ago, we sometimes felt as if we had built our future on the shifting sands. The environment for tribes throughout the country just 60 years ago was tenuous at best. There were times most Chickasaws experienced daily struggle to work, to eat, to raise families.

It is important to understand the small steps taken by the tribe during those challenging times.

Our tribe was totally dependent on the federal government. The few programs and services the tribe could offer its citizens were minimal. No tribal businesses or other entities existed that might contribute to the tribe’s dreams and initiatives. There were even no tribal elections until later.

The Chickasaw people could access only the barest education, housing, health care and other programs. All



GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor, the Chickasaw Nation

Chickasaws had was each other. That strong family connection continues to this day. Sixty years ago, it was the singular bond that held us all together. All of us believed our situation could get better if we built on our cultural foundation of perseverance and achievement.

During the decades of the 1970s and 1980s, we learned how to better access and utilize the federal funds on which we depended for basic services. We became familiar with those in elected office and other officials who could assist us on our drive to build that solid tribal foundation.

It became clear we could not, over time, sustain the healthy, robust programs and services we envisioned on federal funding alone. Such funds were notoriously light and could be reduced without warning from year to year. We understood instinctively our tribe would have to grow. We were going to look at all ideas that might produce funds for all the great programs and services we envisioned.

Growth, to us, equaled self-sufficiency and Chickasaw opportunity. We set a course and followed that path to tribal commercial expansion. The goal was a vibrant and

self-sufficient nation dedicated to improving the lives of its people.

Our growth was not without its twists and turns, particularly early on. Anyone who has engaged in business knows the keys to success most often lie in an organization’s ability to adapt and respond positively to challenges. We were learning the ropes and, along the way, hit on some real successes. Our tribe learned to adapt and base decisions on the reality of the markets – and we played to our strengths.

In the 1990s, the Chickasaw Nation began to break through. We built businesses on a firm base of market evaluation, conservative projections and management discipline. We built our quality management team from within, and that has proved a strong and essential pillar of our success.

Today, our elders can recall the days of struggle, and fully appreciate what we are experiencing today. We always remember it is our people we serve, and our entities that provide the financial foundation are in place strictly to serve the Chickasaw people. The times have changed, but our mission has never varied.

Our businesses are now very profitable, but the real proof of our success is the new Chickasaw college graduate; the Chickasaw mother and baby receiving top quality health care; Chickasaw elders gathering for a nutritious meal and fellowship; the myriad celebrations of our Chickasaw culture.

We have accomplished much together. Working together, the opportunities for the future are limitless.

Chickasaw T.W. Shannon announces bid for U.S. Senate seat



Governor Bill Anoatubby, far right, listens to T.W. Shannon launch his campaign to become the next U.S. Senator from Oklahoma. Mr. Shannon, a Chickasaw and the youngest person ever elected Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, kicked off his campaign in Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Lawton on Jan. 29. He hopes to capture the seat of Tom Coburn, R-Muskogee, who is retiring from the U.S. Senate this fall.

OKLAHOMA CITY – A Chickasaw and youngest man ever elected Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives launched his campaign for U.S. Senate on Jan. 29.

T.W. Shannon, with wife Devon beside him, declared he is a candidate “because I want to help restore prosperity, renew traditional values and reclaim the promise of American greatness for future generations.”

The Lawton Republican is considered a “rising star” by state and national Republican Party members. A champion of limited government and fiscal responsibility, Mr. Shannon was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives in 2006. In 2012, at age 33, he was elected the first African-American Republican to lead a legislative body since Reconstruction. He assumed the leadership post in Jan. 2013.

Mr. Shannon said his goal as Speaker was “for Oklahoma to lead the way in preserving freedom, strengthening families and growing jobs. We accomplished so much in such a short time, from fundamental reform of our

workers’ compensation system to pro-life and pro-family measures. We sent the message that conservative policies lead to more prosperity.”

Among supporters who attended Mr. Shannon’s campaign launch was Gov. Bill Anoatubby.

“T.W. Shannon is a person of great compassion and strength of character,” Gov. Anoatubby said. “Throughout his career, he has demonstrated the indomitable spirit, courage and humility necessary to be a true servant leader. He is serving the people of Oklahoma well as Speaker of the House and we believe the same attributes that enable him to perform well as Speaker will make him an exceptional senator.”

The campaign season will be truncated.

The Oklahoma U.S. Senate seat is available this year due to the resignation of Tom Coburn, R-Muskogee, who announced two weeks ago he would leave office early to spend more time with family. Sen. Coburn was elected in 2005. He has faced health issues while in office.

Two Republicans have an-



T.W. SHANNON

nounced they are seeking the post - Mr. Shannon and Oklahoma Fifth District U.S. Congressman James Lankford. Rep. Lankford was elected to the Congress in 2011 and has a very conservative voting record.

No Democrats have to date come forward to announce a run for the seat.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Final resting place of Gov. Winchester Colbert still a question

Note: This is the second in a series of articles highlighting the burial place of Chickasaw Governors since removal to Indian Territory.

The exact burial place of the second governor of the Chickasaw Nation, Governor Daugherty (Winchester) Colbert, is somewhat of a mystery.

Former Gov. Winchester Colbert served the Chickasaw Nation for three terms - 1858-1860, 1862-1864 and 1864-1866. He led the tribe through tumultuous times that included the runup to civil war and the actual War Between the States.

While his leadership during this difficult time is certain, there appears to be some question about the precise burial place of the distinguished governor, whose appearance and fashion is often compared to Abraham Lincoln.

A 1940 biography of Winchester Colbert tells how the former Governor in 1866 sold his home near Oil Springs in the Chickasaw Nation and moved to Atoka County, Choctaw Nation.

Gov. Colbert and his wife, Annica (Kemp) Colbert, later returned to the Chickasaw Nation and made their home with their son Humphrey Colbert on property located about two miles west of “the present town of Frisco, Johnston County.”

The article, written by John

Bartlett Meserve, went on to say when the Governor died in 1880, he was buried in a family cemetery in a crudely marked grave on the property near Frisco.

His widow, Annica, returned to the home in Oil Springs. She died in 1884 and was buried in the family graveyard at Oil Springs.

Information about Colbert Cemetery published by the Pontotoc County Historical and Genealogical Society fixes the grave of son Humphrey Colbert. The account includes a story of the son who asked to be buried next to his father, and of his father’s grave being subsequently bulldozed and covered with cement.

Other accounts on geology websites, such as deancrocker.com, lists Gov. Colbert’s place of death as Atoka County.

Pontotoc County Connection

Other evidence suggests Gov. Colbert’s grave was actually located in Pontotoc County, Okla.

Writing about the first oil produced in Oklahoma, historian and Choctaw Muriel H. Wright (1889-1975) describes an 1872 meeting at Gov. Colbert’s home. Excerpts of the 1926 article describe a meeting among certain citizens of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations at Gov. Colbert’s home, in old Pontotoc County, Chickasaw Nation in February 1872.

Other accounts seem to indicate the town of Frisco was located between Fittstown and



Daugherty (Winchester) Colbert

Stonewall in Pontotoc County, and was the original Stonewall townsite. It was renamed Frisco when the present town of Stonewall was moved about three miles directly east to its present location, according to the 1942 article “Reminiscences of Old Stonewall” by George W. Burris.

Beyond that, there is some question regarding Humphrey Colbert’s tombstone and whether it actually marks his grave, since the headstones, and possibly the bodies, were moved from their original position prior to the construction of a reservoir.

Although the exact burial place of Gov. Colbert may remain a mystery, his legacy as an important Chickasaw leader is well documented.

Winchester Colbert’s legacy as a leader began long before he became Governor.

Born in the Chickasaw home-

lands in 1810, Winchester Colbert was the youngest member of the Levi Colbert family. He was fluent in Chickasaw, Choctaw and English.

Like his cousin, the Chickasaw Nation’s first Governor Cyrus Harris, he served as a diplomat for the Chickasaw Nation.

At the age of 16, he served as a Chickasaw representative in Washington, D.C.

After relocating to Indian Territory, Winchester Colbert worked diligently as a diplomat to establish the Chickasaw tribe’s sovereignty.

He had a hand in framing the 1855 treaty that recognized the Chickasaw Nation as an independent nation rather than a district within the Choctaw Nation.

In 1856, he played a prominent role in framing the Chickasaw Constitution and served as one of the first Chickasaw legislators under that constitution.

During the Civil War years when the Chickasaw Nation sided with the South, and chaos reigned over much of the region, Governor Colbert was forced to seek refuge in the Red River Valley of North Texas for a time. He fled to avoid becoming a casualty of war, according to Dr. Phillip Morgan’s book “Riding Out The Storm,” as the North’s “take no prisoner’s mantra” would mean the future Chickasaw Governor’s assassination, a demoralizing

and crippling blow to the Confederate forces south of the Canadian and Arkansas Rivers.

Gov. Colbert returned to the Chickasaw Nation in the fall of 1864, and the Chickasaw Nation became the last of the Five Tribes to surrender July 14, 1865.

In October of that year, Gov. Colbert addressed the first session of the Chickasaw Council to convene since the beginning of the Civil War, advising them to “bring about the manumission of slaves at the earliest practicable period. . .”

The Chickasaw Nation entered the war as an independent ally of the Confederacy and Gov. Colbert headed the delegation to Washington that negotiated a separate final treaty with the U.S. government April 28, 1866.

Later that year, Gov. Colbert left office as Cyrus Harris resumed the office.

During his life, Winchester Colbert married five times and had at least 15 children.

He died in 1880 at age 70.

Gov. Colbert was inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame in 2008. His Hall of Fame marker can be found at the Chickasaw Honor Garden, located at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Okla.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

Chickasaw health care services compare favorably to those offered by other tribes

Hello Everyone,
As a member of The Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee I have the opportunity to meet citizens from other tribes. The subject of healthcare and Elder support is always a topic they like to discuss and it gives me a chance to showcase our Elder programs.

Many smaller tribes without revenues and resources are unable to provide for their elders the way the Chickasaw Nation does. Our many programs include the Assisted Living Benefit Program, Burial Assistance, Burial Supplement Assistance Program, Caregiver Program, Veterans Jackets Program, Chore Services, Elderly Energy Assistance Program, Home Maintenance Program, Over the Counter Medication, and the Senior Nutrition Program.

Many of these programs are funded solely by the tribe from revenues put back into services for our citizens. Any of the 13 Legislators are more than happy to help any elder who is in need of assistance. I urge any citizen over the age of 60 to call the Legislator for their district DIRECTLY, or their

area office for information. If you are a citizen of the Pickens District, and needing correct information about the services, you have four Legislators who represent you and your best interest. Please call or email us anytime.

Thank You and God bless
Connie Barker, Pickens District
Connie.barker@chickasaw.net

The Court Advocates

‘Unsung heroes’ of the Chickasaw court system assist citizens with cases

December 17, 2003, the Chickasaw Nation and the U.S. Department of the Interior joined to sign a Memorandum of Agreement for the Chickasaw Nation to reestablish the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the Chickasaw Nation and to reestablish our District Court.

On January 2, 2004 the Chickasaw Nation District Court opened its doors and began hearing cases. The Court has been hearing cases for 10 years and has done so with the help of many people.

At this 10-year sign post, it is important to remember and acknowledge “Unsung Heroes of the Court.” The Judges, the Court Advocates, the Peacemakers, the Lighthouse Officers and the Clerks keep the Court open and running each day. They are truly the unsung heroes of the Court.

January 2, 2004, Judge Aaron Duck opened the doors and had his first dockets that week. Since then Judge Dustin Rowe and Judge Sherry Todd have joined the Court and are currently the presiding judges .

The Court Advocates have been the first responders for the Court. The Advocates are practicing attorneys who help the citizens by listening to their stories, helping them understand the legal landscape of their situations, and draft the necessary documents for filing and appearing in Court. The Advocates do not represent the citizens. The citizens appear in court pro se (for oneself) or without representation. The Court has been fortunate to have such experienced attorneys working in these positions. We are one of the few Tribes, if not the only Tribe, that provides attorneys in the Advocate positions for pro se litigants. When the Court opened, the Court Advocate duties were somewhat uncharted territory. The Advocates and the Judge had to develop the job as they did the job. And the Advocates had to give legal information without representing the citizen. Dustin Rowe was one of the early Advocates and Darlene Cheadle joined several months later. As the Court grew and Dustin became an associate Judge, David Ponder joined the Advocate team with Michael Smith joining soon after. These attorneys created and implemented the fine Advocate program that the Court and the citizens rely on today.

Today the Advocates meet with citizens in 3 locations: Purcell, Ardmore and Ada. In the State and Federal legal systems it has been costly and difficult for all citizens to have equal access to the Courts. The Court Advocates of the Chickasaw Nation have helped make equal access a reality in the Chickasaw Nation by meeting with and helping the citizens they see everyday. The District Court cases docketed every year and have risen from 362 in 2005 to 2479 in 2013.

The bricks and mortar of the Judicial Branch have grown and the services we offer have grown. The Supreme Court is grateful to the Nation and its citizens for the support given to the Court System and grateful to the “Unsung Heroes” who have helped make everything possible.

The District Court is here for the citizens. The Court Advocates will be there to help guide you through your legal needs.

Also, the Supreme Court is looking to add to the Peacemaking Court. Next month we will look at the “Unsung Hero” Peacemakers. If you have an interest in applying to possibly be a Peacemaker, please contact the Supreme Court for more information.



CONNIE BARKER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

ReEntry jobs program offers new opportunities to those with employment barriers

Glancing out my window, I notice my neighbor doing his yearly ritual of preparing the garden plot. Back and forth he goes, disking the soil to make it ready for planting. Last month in *the Chickasaw Times*,

Katie Case shared about her grandfather and the methods he used to forecast the weather- Persimmon seeds and “knives, forks or spoons”.

While paying yearly taxes, I mentioned the “knives, forks and spoons” of persimmons to one of the county land assessors. He was not familiar with the old adage but one of the other office workers was and looked it up on the Internet. www.almanac.com Let me know what the Persimmon seeds look like in your part of the country!

Recently, I had the chance to attend Intertribal Conference hosted by the Seminole Nation. This conference is held quarterly and is an excellent way to meet and visit with the other Tribes about issues and programs that affect all of us. One breakout session was on Reintegration. A program designed to provide transitional employment services to tribal individual with employment barriers. By providing

job related skills, such as how to create a resume, dress for success, polish up on communication skills or further your education. This type of program has already been established in the Chickasaw Nation. The ReEntry Program is under the direction of Mr. Ron Parker. (580) 222-2842.

How time flies. Tushka Chipota, (young warrior) our Great Dane puppy was just 6 weeks old when we brought him home. Now he stands 35” at the shoulder and weighs over 140 pounds. Since we have had some severe frosty weather, Tushka has been allowed to reside in the house. Talk about your lap dog! He acts as if it is his life's calling to be a living, breathing and tongue licking floor rug in our living room. It is hard to realize that 3 years have passed since he joined our family! Like wise, the Chickasaw Nation has grown from its fledgling stages to a world renowned Tribe. Even though my sweet pup is no longer a pup, he still retains his loving nature and desire to please us. In comparison, the Chickasaw Nation has grown by leaps and bounds but deep down, behind all of this, remains a Nation full of citizens with heart! At the end of 2013, the Chickasaw Nation went thru a sorrowful time with Ms. Emily “shonsh-she” Dickerson and Dennis L. Hamilton stepping off this earth. Both shall be missed, however, each one leaves behind a rich and living legacy. As a friend once reminded me, there is no Chickasaw word for goodbye just words to say until we see each other again. I like the mindset of our ancestors....

Chi pesa la cho.
“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.” John 11:27-28

Beth Alexander
PO BOX 246 Achille, OK 74720
(580) 283-3409
bethalexander22@hotmail.com
beth.Alexander@chickasaw.net



Tushka Chipota at six weeks.



Tushka Chipota (young warrior) at 3 years old.

Cherished Chickasaw elder Emily Dickerson welcomed people into her home and life

Hello Everyone,
It is with a heavy heart that I write about the apssing of a cherished Chickasaw elder and dear friend. We are losing so many.

Emily Dickerson passed on Dec. 30 and we had her funeral on Jan. 4. Emily’s passing made neational news because she was the last monolingual speak of the Chickasaw language.

That fact is certainly significant. However, there was something more lost when we lost Emily. We lost a living example of what her son, Carlin, calls the “Chickasaw ways”. Sometimes he shortens the reference and just says, “the old ways”.

To me, the “old ways” mean many things. Right away, I think of old habits and customs like the one Carlin recalled about Emily sweeping the yard. I remember my own mother talking about one of her chores being to sweep the yard.

For many practical reasons, some Chickasaws used to sweep their yards to keep grass away from the house. Without rural fire departments, fire was a real danger and

dry grass, next to the house was a fire hazard. Grass also hid snakes, spiders, rodents and other undesirable critters and sweeping the hard-packed yard kept the grass down and critters away.

But more importantly, sweeping and clearing the yard was equivalent to putting out the welcome mat, and Emily welcomed people into her home and life.

Emily lived her life with a focus on the health and wellbeing of others first and then herself. She didn’t judge. The size of the house or the kinds of clothes that someone wore were not important to her as long as a person wasn’t in need of clothing or shelter. If she knew that someone was hungry or needed a place to stay, she would feed them and make sure they had a place to sleep.

A living example of someone who prioritizes the health and wellbeing of others, especially family and friends, is perhaps our greatest loss with the passing of Emily. Carlin says that she always put the needs of others first.

Living as Emily did creates a freedom that very few of us know. She was happy. She knew what she needed and her needs were simple. She didn’t feel the need to spend more money than she had and did not, therefore, have the money worries that drain the happiness from so many. She did not feel the need to impress others with material possessions. She was happy with what she had and she had what she needed. By living for others as she did, Emily enjoyed some of her rewards here on Earth in the form of true happiness.

As I know Emily would, I wish happiness to you all. Respectfully,
Katie
(580) 421-4903



Emily Dickerson with her son, Carlin Thompson.

Sulphur Fish Hatchery

“ Pond Stocking Specialist ”

Channel Catfish, Large Mouth Bass, Blue Gill, & Grass Carp



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Sulphur, OK 73086
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Cell: 580-618-1402
Email: catfish@brightok.net



Chickasaw Citizen

Energy assistance to winter vegetables, our tribe provides super citizen programs!

Chukma!
Greetings from the Tishomingo District!
How fortunate we are to be Chickasaw citizens.
Our Nation has thrived beyond our expectation, especially in the past two decades.

Because of our success, we as citizens, are able to benefit from hundreds of programs and services offered by the Chickasaw Nation.

Many services meet the basic needs of food and shelter to our citizens of all ages, from infants to elders.

During these winter months, maintaining a warm home becomes vital, especially for our honored elders, the people who help pave the way for our tribe's success.

The Chickasaw Nation offers several assistance programs to these citizens who live both inside and outside tribal boundaries to help combat high utilities bills and stay safe.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assists individuals, who are income eligible, with home heating or cooling bills and/or energy assistance deposits for citizens who live in the Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

The Emergency Energy Assistance Program helps Chickasaw citizens who may have an urgent need for assistance with a gas, propane, electric or water bill, or with utility deposits. This program is designed for our citizens who live inside the boundaries and are over age 60.

The Elderly Energy Assistance Program provides one-time assistance for winter heating bills and one-time assistance for summer cooling bills. This program is designed for our citizens over the age of 60 who live outside the boundaries of the Chickasaw Nation.

The Assisted Living Benefit program provides assistance for eligible Chickasaw elders to live in a state licensed assisted living facility. This program is available both inside and outside the tribal boundaries.

Other services provide nutritious food to our future: the children of the Chickasaw Nation, as well as to our elders and families.

The Chickasaw Nation Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) is available to eligible families who need encouragement and support in feeding their families. The program provides age appropriate nutrition education and a supplemental food package for growing children from prenatal period to 5-years-old. Women, infants and children who participate can improve their diet with the help of a nutritionist and get up to date information about immunizations. Mothers can also learn about the benefits of breastfeeding from a lactation consultant. The program has served the needs of thousands of participants during the many years it has been in our communities.

Chickasaw Nation WIC Clinics are located in Ada, Ardmore, Tishomingo, Sulphur, Pauls Valley, Purcell, and Duncan.

Despite the cold weather, our Chickasaw elders can also have access to healthy foods during the winter months through the Winter Fruit and Vegetable program for seniors. From November to March the program provides a monthly benefit of healthy fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables to our elders. The program is available at the Ada, Ardmore and Purcell nutrition centers.

Nutrition education and commodity foods are also available through the Food Distribution program at these centers.

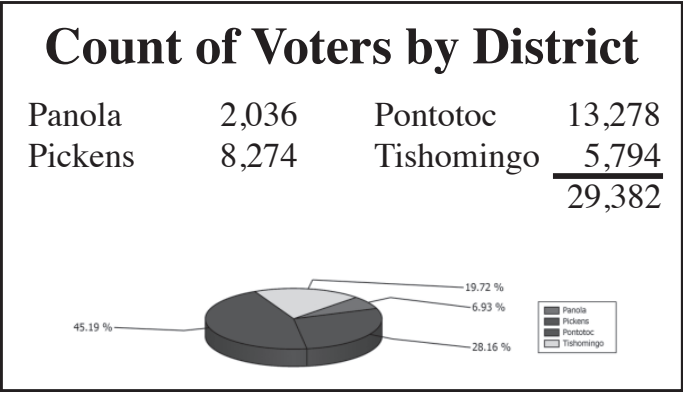
The Get Fresh! Nutrition program also provides innovative nutrition education through interactive cooking classes and demonstrations which are offered throughout the Chickasaw Nation.

Through the programs and many others, the Chickasaw Nation strives to fulfill the mission "to enhance the lives of Chickasaw citizens" of all ages.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature. It is a privilege and an honor to serve you.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Chokma'shki,
Tim Colbert
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net
580-421-7242



Monthly Gospel Singing
7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 7, 2014
Cornerstone Full Gospel Church
316 N. Main, Caddo, Okla.
Featured Singers: the Orphan Family
All singers and listeners welcome.
Concession available!
For more information call (580) 760-6127.

There are many ways to find your creative abilities within the Chickasaw Nation

Chukma, Chinchukma, Hello, how are you?
There never seems to be a slow time in the Chickasaw Nation. There are always plenty of things to do. There are several upcoming opportunities for our youth to show off their creative abilities in a variety of ways. Just to name a few:



NANCY ELLIOTT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

The Chickasaw School of Guitar is open for new students ages 12 to 18. The one-hour lessons will be given at the Arts & Humanities building in Ada. Call 580-272-5520 for more information.

A Saturday Arts Program for students in grades three through six is also being offered at the Arts & Humanities building in Ada. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 580-436-3419 for more information.

Children Speaking Chickasaw Language Club meeting are held monthly for children, ages three and older, who are interested in learning more about the Chickasaw language and participating in fun activities. To join the club, call 580-272-5540.

The Anoli Creative Writing contest is now open to young Chickasaw authors in grades 6 through 12 and young adults through age 24. Participants are encouraged to enter up to three written works in one or more categories - poetry, short story and essay. To learn more, call 580-272-5520. The deadline is February 21.

There is also a fantastic summer program for Native American high school students interested in public service, government, or politics. The 2014 INSPIRE Pre-College Summer Program will be held July 6-25, 2014, at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. The INSPIRE Pre-College Program is a full scholarship opportunity to spend 3 weeks on the George Washington campus to learn about intergovernmental relations between tribal governments and the federal government. The scholarship includes: one course in Native Politics, room and board at GW, airfare, textbooks, and local travel.

Applications are due March 1, 2014. To learn more, visit <http://inspire.naplp.gwu.edu/about-inspire-pre-college-program>.

Hope you have a great February. Please let me know if I can help you in any way.

Chipisala' cho anowa, Until I see you again,
Nancy
Pontotoc District Seat 2
Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net
580-399-4374

Senior sites continue to be beehives of activity, even during the winter months

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District. January has had some pretty days this year which we all enjoyed, but also some days around 7 degrees. We hope that the cold days are gone for now because cold days usually keep seniors at home.



MARY JO GREEN

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Seniors staying at home miss their daily visits to the senior center and its fellowship with other people, exercise and games, and one day a week at the Ada and Mardill sites, line dancing. Some of our senior sites have a variety of games available. In every site, seniors enjoy visiting and telling stories of the past.

Five Legislators enjoyed attending the Oklahoma City Community Council meeting and a good meal. The evening's speakers were Chelsey McKnight, Marketing communications at www.chickasaw.net and Phillip Carroll Morgan, staff writer and author of several Chickasaw books. He works closely with our Cultural Center and others in that field. I truly enjoyed his presentation.

Five Legislators also attended the Inter Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes which was sponsored by the Seminole Nation. The Council met at a hotel west of Shawnee, an enterprise of another Indian nation, because the Seminoles do not yet have a suitable facility of their own. Everything was well planned and it was well attended by all five tribes with some guests from other tribes. I always enjoy hearing about the accomplishments of the other tribes presented by their leaders and council members.

As usual, and I wish it wasn't this way, I attended several funerals. An especially sad funeral was that of Emily Dickerson. Her story and obituary are told in this issue of *the Chickasaw Times*. Her passing marked a milestone in our history as she was the last Chickasaw who did not speak English and only spoke Chickasaw.

I also visited many families in January which gives me joy.

I would love to hear from you. My email address is mary.green@chickasaw.net and my address and telephone number are listed elsewhere in this and every issue of *the Chickasaw Times* and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. Until next time, I wish God's blessings on all of our people. Thank you.



Dustin Lynch

Country star Dustin Lynch at McSwain Feb. 8

ADA, Okla. - The McSwain Theatre will be swinging when country artist Dustin Lynch takes the stage at 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 8.

Fresh from stops in New York, Nashville and other cities during the "Light the Fuse" tour with country star Keith Urban, Mr. Lynch will be making his debut appearance on the historic McSwain stage.

The 28-year-old star released his debut single "[Cowboys and Angels](#)"

in January 2012. That same month, [Country Weekly](#) began streaming his songs on its website. The song was named a top five single in 2012. His self-titled debut album hit number one on the country charts.

His new single "Wild in Your Smile" is currently playing on country radio and climbing the charts.

He is known for performing his previous single "She Cranks My Tractor" during concerts and tailoring his

show to the audience.

A native of Tullahoma, Tenn., Mr. Lynch was influenced in his youth by country singers Alan Jackson, Oklahoma native Garth Brooks and Clint Black. He moved to Nashville to pursue a career in country music in 2003.

McSwain Theatre doors for the "An Evening With Dustin Lynch" concert will open at 7 p.m.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

'Peter Pan' featured at the McSwain Theatre Feb. 18

The McSwain Theatre will transform into "Never Never Land" Tuesday, Feb. 18 when "Peter Pan," by Theatreworks USA, flies into the Ada theatre for two performances at 9:30 a.m. and noon.

"Peter Pan" is an adapted stage version of the classic tale created by John Caird and Trevor Nunn.

The touring production explores the journey of a group of children in turn-of-the-century London who use their imaginations to reenact the story of Peter Pan.

Based on an episode in Barrie's 1902 novel *The Little White Bird*, "Peter Pan" opened on the London stage in 1904 and on Broadway in 1905. Since then "the boy who wouldn't grow up" has been played by such actresses as Elsa Lancaster, Maggie Smith, Marilyn Miller, Jean Arthur, Mary Martin, Sandy Duncan and Cathy Rigby.

The story empowers children to create their own world of make-believe. As the children fly to Neverland and escape the evil Captain Hook and Mr. Smee, they recognize the importance of friendship as well as the value of being part of a family.

The live production encourages children to let their imaginations take "flight" and to create their own adventures using household objects as props and puppets as characters.

For ticket information, contact the McSwain office at (580) 332-8108 or at <http://www.mcswaintheatre.com>.

Follow theatre updates on Facebook at [Facebook.com/McSwainTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/McSwainTheatre) or on Twitter at [Twitter.com/McSwainTheatre](https://twitter.com/McSwainTheatre).

The McSwain Theatre is located at 130 W. Main in Ada.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

Chickasaw girls hone softball skills at ‘Day of Champions’ camp



More than 60 athletes from across Oklahoma participated in the “Day of Champions” Winter Softball Camp in Edmond, Okla.

EDMOND, Okla. - Chickasaw softball players were treated to a unique spring luxury while on winter break. More than 60 athletes, from ages eight to 18, gathered at Legacy Sports Academy in Edmond for the annual “Day of Champions” Winter Softball Camp led by Coach Ken Heupel.

The camp allowed players to hone their skills during the off season and learn new ones. Players were introduced to softball techniques they might not otherwise be exposed to during regular season.

“It is exciting to have a softball camp in the winter,” Sandra Del Toro, 12, of Ada, Okla., said. “It gets me out of the house and gives me practice with coaches I am not used to.”

The camp taught skills to be used on and off the softball field. Hitting, fielding and pitching were primary. The importance of dedication, goal-setting and teamwork was also stressed.

“The coaches are teaching us there is a mental aspect to the game that can be applied to life outside of sports,” outfielder Rachel Wade, 17, of Bethel, Okla., said. “We are learning about leadership, teamwork and I am making friends. This is making me motivated for next season.”

Camp coaches have the knowledge to improve the players’ games and help prepare them for the next level of life, whether as a beginner or a seasoned athlete. Coaches represented all levels of play. Coaches from area high schools, colleges and professional organizations participated in the camp.



Rachel Wade, 17, of Bethel, and Sandra Del Toro, 12, of Purcell, practice their throwing techniques during “Day of Champions” Winter Softball Camp.

“We have 15 coaches this year,” Chickasaw Nation Youth Activities Manager Kevin Tiger said. “We have coaches from Union High School and from as far away as Texas A&M University. The strength coach for the Cleveland Browns is also here.”

This year’s softball camp had one of the highest attendance rates since the camp began. Mr. Tiger attributes this year’s attendance increase to a new date and Chickasaw Nation transportation provided by private buses from Ada, Ardmore, Purcell, Tishomingo and Davis.

“We changed the date of the camp this year,” Mr. Tiger said. “We wanted to make sure the camp would fall inside schools’ winter breaks so more could attend.”

These changes increased attendance for the camp.

“This is the fifth year we have been involved with the fast pitch softball camp with the Chickasaws,” Coach Heupel said. “This is biggest group we have had and the first time we have been at Legacy Sports Academy.”

The camp was conducted in Edmond at Legacy Sports Academy to accommodate the added attendees. Legacy Sports Academy is a 10,000 square-foot indoor facility that houses multi-use batting and hitting tunnels. The tunnels are outfitted with sliding nets that allow conversion of the tunnels into a large open field area for team and fielding instruction.

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs.



The “Day of Champions” Winter Softball camp had participants of all levels of skill. Drills for speed and coordination kept campers on the ball.

About ‘Day of Champions’ and the Chickasaw Nation

The “Day of Champions” camps are led by Coach Ken Heupel. The Day of Champions organization partners with the Chickasaw Nation to present the Day of Champions camps throughout the year.

The staff at these camps includes coaches and players from various colleges, universities, and professional organizations, as well as Chickasaw Nation employees.

“It is always great to work with the Chickasaws,” Coach Heupel said. “They are leaders and they have vision for their youth. The Chickasaw Nation is using sports as the draw for youth to get them in and teach them skills in life.”

Camp attendees receive mentoring and coaching in athletics, health, fitness and life choices. Camps focus on four principles of leadership - discipline, respect, trust and hard work.

“We are just reinforcing the morals and characters the Chickasaws have,” Coach Heupel said. “That’s what a parent or a group wants to do, to find places and people that reinforce what you believe in.”

Winter baseball clinic hosts 70 Chickasaw boys



More than 70 Chickasaw athletes took part in the Winter Baseball Clinic during winter break in Edmond, Okla.

EDMOND, Okla. - More than 70 Chickasaw athletes took part in the annual Winter Baseball Clinic this year at Legacy Sports Academy in Edmond. For eight-year-

old little leaguer Devon Monroe, of Ada, Okla., the clinic became a family event.

“He likes ball,” Devon’s grandmother Joanna Maccollister said. “Devon likes to interact with the kids. He plays everything there is to play. Our family loves sports. We have high school all stars in the family.”

At the camp, students learned essential life skills such as dedication, goal setting and teamwork while learning baseball fundamentals.

The values taught at the camp are something Devon’s mom, Stacy MacCollister, understands. Ms. MacCollister likes the winter clinic.

“The clinic keeps Devon going and practicing,” Ms. MacCollister said. “The closed-in environment

and different stations let him learn more than just one position on the team. I like the different age groups of the camp working together. It lets him learn more.”

Activities at the clinic included break-out on teaching the essentials of fielding, pitching, strength training and batting. Outfield drills were conducted at Oklahoma City University.

The clinic was designed for athletes ages eight to 18, who are currently involved in a summer or fall youth league or high school baseball program. Clinic coaches have the knowledge to improve a player’s game and help prepare him for the next level of play, whether beginner or a seasoned athlete.

Coaches from several area high schools and colleges, includ-

ing former professional players, worked the clinic. Nick Blackburn, of Ada, Okla., native and Minnesota Twins pitcher, was the clinic keynote speaker.

“Major Leaguer Nick Blackburn was our guest speaker this year,” youth activities manager Kevin Tiger said. “He pitched for the Twins for 13 years. He is helping with the camp, helping with the pitchers.”

Athletes from across the Chickasaw Nation participated in the event, including those who relied on transportation to Edmond. Buses were provided to pick up participants from Ada, Tishomingo, Purcell, Davis and Ardmore.

“We drove up from Ada today to be with Devon and see what the camp is about,” Ms. MacCollister said. “We saw how nice those

buses are. We might let him ride with the other kids here tomorrow.”

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs.



Jacob Carter, 10, of Tishomingo, keeps his eye on the ball as he completes his hitting drills.



Devon Monroe, 8, of Ada, chokes up on the bat as he learns bunting techniques.

Tishomingo facility nurtures recreational and endangered species

National Fish Hatchery bears name of Chickasaw leader



Thousands of catfish are harvested every year at the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery. The catfish are sent to many locations within Oklahoma, Indian tribal lands and military bases.

TIHOMINGO, Okla. - Nothing elevates the hopes and heart rate of an angler more than hearing that first predawn “ZWIINNGG” of a casting reel as fishing line slashes the early morning air and falls – plop – into the water.

Whether it’s the first or last day of the season, fishermen hope that plop is a dinner bell ringing in the ears of their desired quarry.

Outdoor enthusiasts pursuing a multitude of game fish seeking refuge in coves, holes and brush in Oklahoma’s lakes and streams make a sound, too, that thrills the state’s tourism industry. They make cash registers ring with predictable regularity.

With more than 700,000 anglers using the many public lakes, ponds and streams within Oklahoma each year, work is under way to guarantee the state’s natural fish resources will exist for generations to come. These efforts incorporate fish hatcheries located throughout the state, including the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery.

The national hatchery was established in 1929 on lands purchased from Native Americans. Located less than 15 minutes from the city of Tishomingo, it has been named in honor of Chickasaw Chief Tishomingo – one of the tribe’s most celebrated leaders.

Hatcheries play a major role in preserving imperiled species and provide millions of fish for recreational purposes. The Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery is one of only 70 fish hatcheries managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service. Each hatchery is unique, but all work to protect and conserve fish populations within the U.S.

“Our hatchery is different than most for a couple of reasons,” biologist Brian Fillmore said. “While we do raise recreational fish, national hatcheries focus on threatened, endangered and species of special interest. Included are paddlefish and alligator snapping turtles, a non-fish species. Also, the water we use is gravity fed to our ponds, we don’t have the added cost and head ache of large water pumps.”

The hatchery sits on the banks of historic Pennington Creek in Johnston County. The location is a natural choice for the hatchery. Pennington Creek has a continuous flow of water provided by the Arbuckle Simpson Aquifer. The hatchery relies on the aquifer to provide clean, cool and pristine water, even during extreme drought. The creek flows through the heart of Chickasaw lands, making its way through the historic capital of the Chickasaw Nation, Tishomingo.

The water is cleaned through natural processes once used by the hatchery.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Brian Fillmore is one of eight full-time employees at the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery. He explains why Pennington Creek was selected the hatchery’s home.

“The hatchery is careful with the water we use and the local environment,” Mr. Fillmore said. “Once used, the water flows through an affluent that catches solid particles within it. The water released is tested by the state, it is as clean and pure as when it first arrives. We also take steps to make sure fish not native to Pennington Creek don’t get loose.”

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the hatchery is bordered by 3,400 acres in a conservation easement on the north that protects Pennington Creek and area watershed.

With more than 50 ponds located on 235 acres and a staff of eight full-time employees, the hatchery breeds many types of fish. These include the prehistoric paddlefish, catfish, alligator gar and alligator snapping turtle. The hatchery has a captive breeding and rearing program for threatened and endangered populations, including the Arkansas River shiner.

“We are always trying new ways to raise fish, as well as different kinds of aquatic animals,” Mr. Fillmore said. “We are developing programs for the endangered Arkansas river shiner and leopard darter. We also raise alligator snapping turtles, a species most people would not think to be



A majestic bald eagle searches for an easy meal at the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery. Wintering in Oklahoma, bald eagles can be spotted at many locations within Johnston County.

raised at a hatchery.”

Vital information is collected at the hatchery for protecting and managing the diverse types of wildlife found in the Arkansas and Red River basins. Both flow into the Mississippi River, which runs through the historic Homeland of the Chickasaw.

The hatchery visitor center is open to the public year-round. Aquariums, photographic exhibits, aquatic ecosystems and a display pool with various types of fish are present at the hatchery. For the adventurous, a scenic area with fishing access and a hiking trail is available. The trail was constructed by Boy Scouts of America and the Chickasaw Youth Program.

Kids ranging from six to 12 years of age can participate in the annual Kids Fishing Derby at the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery during National Fishing Week in June.

Popular among visitors is the

historic water wheel that is maintained by the hatchery. Once home to a thriving grist mill, the functioning historic water wheel can still be seen on the banks of Pennington Creek while touring the hatchery grounds.

“In the 1930s, there used to be an amusement park of sorts adjacent to the hatchery,” Mr. Fillmore said. “Near the water wheel was a miniature golf course, surround by outbuildings. The only thing left from that time is the grist wheel. We keep it maintained for its historical value.”

Guided tours are available from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. For large groups, call ahead as weather and scheduled job duties can affect availability of hatchery staff.

For more information, contact the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery at (580) 384-5463 or visit fws.gov/southwest/fisheries. **CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs.**

Oklahoma an attractive destination for anglers across the country

Oklahoma’s outdoor activities are as diverse as the as the lands within it. With more than one million surface acres of water and an estimated 78,500 miles of rivers and streams, fishing and boating add to the immense success of Oklahoma’s tourism industry.

According to information released by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation, anglers add more than \$800 million in annual retail sales to the state. More than 11,000 jobs are directly related to the sports fishing industry in Oklahoma.

The ripple effect on the state economy by anglers exceeds \$1 billion.

State, local and federal agencies collect more than \$77 million an-

nually in tax revenue from anglers who purchase licenses and other required permits to fish Oklahoma waters. The majority of this revenue is cycled back into wildlife programs.

About U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fisheries program and Native American tribes

The Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery falls within the Southwest Region of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This region includes Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona. These states are home to 47 national refuges and eight national fish hatcheries.

More than 80 tribes are located within the Southwest Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The fisheries program works with tribes to inventory and assess tribal resources and resource

conservation.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, approximately 25 tribes request assistance within the southwest region annually. Most of the requests by tribes are for specialized and technical assistance in the management of natural resources.

Tribes are confronted with issues such as threatened and endangered species management, recreational fisheries, habitat restoration, and aquatic nuisance species. Practical support is given by the fisheries program to deal with problems faced by the tribes. Many tribes also require hatchery fish to operate recreational fishing lakes which they depend on economically.

Shiners to alligator gar, Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery raises many species

The types of fish raised at the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery are varied, but almost all are classified as species of special interest, threatened or endangered. Fish raised at the hatchery include channel catfish, alligator gar, paddlefish, Arkansas River shiner and alligator snapping turtle.

Channel catfish are raised for stocking ponds and lakes across Oklahoma and Texas, as well as military bases and Indian tribal lands. The hatchery also raises channel catfish used for the annual Kids Fishing Derby during the National Fishing Week in June.

Alligator gar are the largest of the gar species. They can grow more than eight feet long and weigh more than 300 pounds. They can be distinguished by the two rows of teeth in the upper jaw. Alligator gar populations in

the Mississippi River basin are considered imperiled, while Red River populations are declining. The hatchery is actively pursuing ways to improve spawning techniques for this fish.

Paddlefish, also known as spoonbill by anglers Oklahoma, are primitive fish found in North America in the Ohio, Missouri and Mississippi river basins. Paddlefish numbers have dropped considerably and are now considered a “species of special concern” by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. At the hatchery, thousands of paddlefish are spawned, hatched, reared and then released in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas.

The Arkansas River Shiner is a type of small minnow-like fish found in Oklahoma. The hatchery is currently working to develop culture techniques for future restocking programs. Arkansas Riv-

er shiners were once found in the Arkansas River, but now they are no longer found within its waters and only a small population can be found in the Canadian River in Oklahoma and Texas.

Alligator snapping turtles are the largest freshwater turtles in North America. They are a species of special concern in Oklahoma.

The hatchery is currently breeding and raising alligator snapping turtles in order to collect information about their life cycles, which will be used to protect the turtles.

Turtles raised at the hatchery have been released in Caney and Verdigris Rivers in Northeastern Oklahoma, as well as in the nearby Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in Southern Oklahoma.



A historic water wheel from the early 20th century maintained by the Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery is a popular attraction. The site was once home to a thriving grist mill on the banks of Pennington Creek.

Chickasaw manufacturer helps customers discover ‘how sweet it is!’

Bedre hits the ‘sweet spot’ during Chocolate Lovers Month



Gift trays of chocolate Bedré delights ready for wrapping at the Davis factory.

“All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn’t hurt.” – Charles M. Schultz

February is National Chocolate Lovers Month and many Chickasaw Nation-owned businesses offer unique options to celebrate the sweet observance, beginning with Bedré Fine Chocolates.

Bedré is the only Native American-owned chocolate factory. It is a one-of-a-kind attraction in Chickasaw Country.

Bedre’s 34,600 square-foot facility is situated along I-35 near Davis, Okla. Upon entering the Bedre plant, you are immediately drawn into the delightful world of chocolate, beginning with a complimentary chocolate sample

and a warm welcome.

There are mountains of chocolate melt-a-ways, chocolate-covered twists and a wide range of other chocolate-enrobed delights. Other unique items include chocolate-scented candles, body scrubs, chocolate soda and cozy blankets.

There is chocolate-covered popcorn, peanuts, pecans, potato crisps, cookies and orange slices. And don’t forget about the cowboy boot, cowboy hat and Oklahoma-shaped chocolates!

This decadence is found all year long at the Bedré retail store, Bedré general manager Phillip McWherter.

“At the retail shop you can

get specialties,” Bedre general manager Phillip McWherter said. “There are things that are not in everyday product line, such as cookies enrobed in chocolate or dried fruit.”

The chocolate factory is always prepared for any occasion, he said, from Valentine Day to Fourth of July, with special offerings.

“A visit will give you new ideas on what to get your sweetheart, and every time you come, there is going to be something different,” Mr. McWherter said. “We try to keep it fresh and fun.”

Some new offerings include a chocolate-covered raisin and coffee and cream-covered coffee

beans. The very popular chocolate-covered strawberries are offered on a first-come, first-served basis only on Valentine Day.

One of the best reasons to visit the Bedré factory is to watch the skilled staff create a variety of confectionery delicacies. Using specialized high-end machinery, a variety of meltaways (mint, caramel, hot fudge, peanut butter, raspberry, espresso), candy bars, clusters, twists and sensations are ultimately created from the selection of white, dark and mint chocolate, peanut butter and caramel stored in huge vats.

This process can be viewed from large glass windows separating the factory from the retail area.

Chocolate’s Native American connection

Plans are under way to expand the chocolate experience with the “Bedré Experience.” The interactive attraction will include the Native American connection to the history of chocolate and the Bedré process, and chocolate sampling in several forms.

“The ‘Bedré Experience’ will appeal to all the senses – touch, smell, taste, vision, Mr. McWherter said.

“You will smell, taste and touch the chocolate. You will also learn chocolate is a Native American product. It played an important part in Indian culture and trade. The cocoa bean was even used as currency.”

The chocolate experience is a natural complement to Chickasaw Country tourism efforts. The Bedre store and factory are located in the same vicinity as other area attractions like the Chickasaw Cultural Center, Artesian Hotel, Turner Falls Park and Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

New Bedre packing will be rolled out later this year and an expanded product line is also in the works.

Bedre produces nearly 300,000 pounds of chocolate annually which is shipped to retailers nationwide. Much of it is sold under private labels.

The company just concluded a busy holiday season and doubled its sales totals from the same time last year.

Quality and sustainability is always the top priority at the manufacturing plant.

“Everything we do, we are aware and try to be a company that is very involved in sustainability,” Mr. McWherter said. “Our suppliers are very involved in making sure the farms where the cacao is grown are using best practices, have sustainability programs and are educating future generations about the importance of sustainability.”

In addition, Bedré is a member of the “Made in Oklahoma” program which assists companies in promoting agricultural products that are grown, produced or manufactured in Oklahoma.

Bedré Fine Chocolates is conveniently located on the southwest corner of I-35 at Exit 55 at 35 N. Colbert Road in Davis. It is adjacent to Chickasaw Nation Welcome Center.

The Bedré retail store is open Monday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

An additional Bedré retail store is located in Ada inside the Sovereign Family Clinic, 1007 N. Country Club Road.

You can follow Bedré Fine Chocolate on Facebook (facebook/bedrefinechocolate) and Twitter (@bedrechocolate) or call 1-800-367-5390 for more information.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

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Bedré clerk Jacklyn Wright prepares for Valentine Day and National Chocolate Month, both celebrated this month, at the Bedré Retail store and factory located off I-35 near Davis. Bedré Fine Chocolates is owned and operated by the Chickasaw Nation.

Bedré Café – A place to indulge during Chocolate Lover’s Month, or anytime!

SULPHUR, Okla. - Situated alongside retailers at the Artesian Hotel, the Bedré Café is a one-of-a kind coffee bar, candy store, sandwich shop and confectionary.

Many menu items feature Bedré Fine Chocolate, a Chickasaw Nation business. The café offers gourmet coffees, fresh fruit smoothies, made-to-order deli sandwiches and freshly baked goods like cookies, muffins and

layered cakes. The menu also features hand-dipped ice cream cones, ice cream sundaes and signature shakes.

The 50s-era inspired eatery also includes a retail area.

Bedré Café is open Sunday - Thursday 7 a.m. – 8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.

For more information about Bedré Café, call (580) 622-8020 or visit chickasawcountry.com.

Chocolate Dates to Remember!

It’s no surprise that National Chocolate Lovers Month is celebrated in February, but opportunities abound all year long to indulge in Bedré:

March 19: National [Chocolate Caramel](#) Day
March 24: National Chocolate-Covered Raisins Day
April 21: National [Chocolate-Covered Cashews](#) Day
May 12: National Nutty Fudge Day
June 7: National Chocolate Ice Cream Day
July 8: National Milk Chocolate with Almonds Day
July 28: National [Milk Choco-](#)

[late](#) Day
August 20: National Chocolate Pecan Pie Day
September 12: National Chocolate Milkshake Day
September 22: National [White Chocolate](#) Day
September 27: National Chocolate Milk Day
October 28: National Chocolate Day
November 7: National Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds Day
December 16: National [Choc-](#)
[olate-Covered Anything](#) Day
December 28: National Chocolate Day

BIRTHS



Ella Rose Cogburn

Ella Rose Cogburn was born December 17, 2013 at Baylor Medical Center in Frisco, Texas. She weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 1/2 inches at birth. She is the daughter of Heath and Iesha Cogburn, of Plano, Texas. Her paternal grandparents are Ted and Pat Daniel Cole, of Sulphur, Oklahoma and Tom Cogburn, of Dallas. Pat Cole's grandmother, Adeline Benton, is a Chickasaw original enrollee. Her maternal grandparents are Mike and Rose Woods, of Fort Worth and Mike and Kim Crist, of San Pedro, Cali. We give thanks to God for our Christmas miracle!



Sadie Zoe Manning

Sam and Dr. Tessa Manning, of Ardmore, Okla., announce the birth of their daughter Sadie Zoe Manning. Sadie was born November 22, 2013. She weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 21 inches at birth. Proud grandparents are Jimmy and Patsi Manning, of Ardmore, Cindy Lee Walker, of Ardmore, and the late Jody Burgess. Sadie is the great-granddaughter of James and Barbara Manning, the late Joan Anoatubby and Bobbie and Byron Burgess, of Kemp, Okla.



Lillian Layne Reding

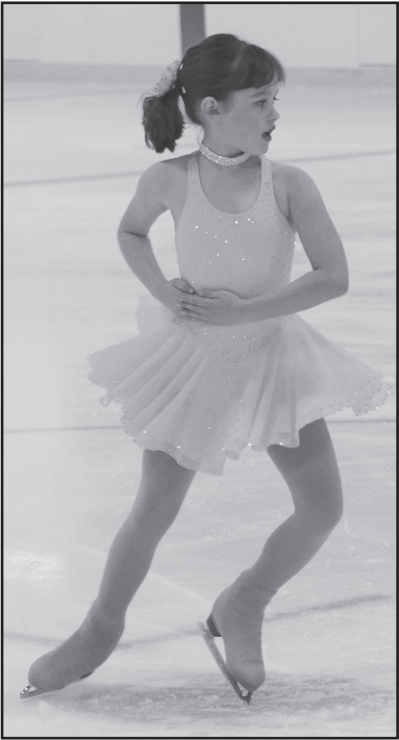
Lillian Layne Reding was born at 11:55 a.m., October 19, 2013 at Gainesville, Texas. She weighed 6 lbs., and measured 18 inches at birth. She is the daughter of Richard and Laurel Reding, of Ardmore, Okla. She is the granddaughter of Mike and GayLynn Reding, Ardmore, and Marlene Williams, of Gainesville, Texas and Don Williams, of Irving, Texas. Lillian is the fourth great-granddaughter of original Chickasaw enrollee, James Johnson. She is also a direct descendant of John McIish, 2000 Chickasaw Hall of Fame inductee.

Chickasaw angler lands big blue cat



Chickasaw citizen, Tyler Edgar caught this 50-lb. blue catfish on New Year's Day. Tyler is the son of Steven and Stacy Edgar, of Sulphur, Okla.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Sydney Upton

Sydney Upton leading the way on the ice

Sydney Upton is an eight-year-old Chickasaw girl who lives with her family in Troy, Michigan. She attends Shrine Catholic Grade School where she plays basketball and participates in all the traditional school activities. But away from school, Sydney pursues her passion of figure skating. When she was five years old, Sydney caught the skating bug. It was challenging, however, because the family then lived in Harlingen, Texas in the far south portion of the state. Sydney found a rink in McAllen, Texas that offered lessons. She was hooked. Sydney first competed at the Bluebonnet Open in Austin, Texas and won first place in both her events. A star was born! The Bluebonnet was the first of 47 competitions for Sydney and her two gold medals were the first of 138. The family moved to Michigan and Sydney didn't miss a beat. She won the Michigan Basic Skills Series in 2012 and 2013. She took second place at the State Games of America in Harrisburg, Penn., in 2013. Sydney loves competing and being in front of the crowd. She has skated in 10 ice shows and has enjoyed the privilege of skating a duet with an Olympic skater in two "Skate Dance Dream" shows. Sydney now skates at the International Skating Academy where head coach marina Zoueva and her staff offer Olympics-caliber instruction. Ice dance is now Sydney's focus. Academy students skate at the Arctic Edge Arena in Canton, Michigan. She is skating with reigning Olympics gold, silver and bronze medalists. Three of these teams will be competing in the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia this month. Sydney skates six days a week and spends several hours daily on the ice with the coaches and athletes. She hopes to someday represent the Chickasaw Nation and the U.S. in the Olympics.



Lori Dale Gibson

Lori Dale Gibson earns degree from UHouston

Lori Dale Gibson is a 2013 graduate from the University of Houston-Downtown (UHD). She is the daughter of Lisa and Steve Gibson. She is the granddaughter of Noweta Whiting Underwood. Her great grandmother is Lilian Dale Sacra Whiting an original enrollee. Ms. Gibson is from Tomball, Texas and began her college career at Texas Tech. After completing one year she she transferred to the local Lonestar Junior College for her sophomore year, to finish her core classes and to not be so far from home. Her junior year she enrolled in UHD and earned a bachelor of science in Interdisciplinary Studies. Lori works full time at a local barn where she is a riding instructor, teaching beginner equitation, Eventing and hunter/jumper. We are very proud to announce Lori's graduation and the family wish to thank the Chickasaw Nation for their support of Lori during her college endeavors. Without their aid things would have been much more difficult for her and we appreciate their help very much. Congratulations, Lori



Michael Andrew Nixon

Michael Andrew Nixon earns MBA from UTA

Michael Andrew Nixon is a 2013 graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), Fort Worth. He is the son of Steve and Kara Jack Nixon. He is the grandson of James Thomas Jack, Sr., the great-grandson of Tom Jack and the great-great-grandson of Walter Thomas Jack. He is the great-great-great-grandson of original enrollee, Mary Sugars Johnson-Jack. Mr. Nixon received his masters in business administration from UTA, following his undergraduate degree in finance from Hardin-Simmons University in May of 2011. He is currently helping spearhead a new logistics department on the V-22 Osprey at Bell Helicopter in Fort Worth. Mr. Nixon is extremely grateful to the Chickasaw Nation for supporting his education and giving him the opportunity for an internship at Bank2 during the summer of 2011.



Lance Edward Straughn

Lance Straughn earns biomedical engineering bachelor's degree

Lance Edward Straughn graduated December 2013 from the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond. He is the son of Paul and Susan Straughn, of Wilson, Okla. He is the grandson of Vernon Straughn and the great-great grandson of Roberson Carlton. Mr. Straughn earned a bachelor of science in Biomedical Engineering and will be working in heart pump research and development. Lance could not have completed his studies without the encouragement and financial support from the Department of Education of the Chickasaw Nation.

Veronica Harjo top player at Warrior Showcase



Veronica Harjo

A Chickasaw middle school student has recently been chosen top offensive player at an all-Indian basketball tournament.

Veronica Harjo is an eighth-grade student at Longfellow Middle School in Norman, Okla. Veronica received the Outstanding Offensive Award for her play in the annual Warrior Showcase Shootout All-Indian Tournament in Henryette, Okla. The tournament was Nov29 to Dec. 1. Veronica is the daughter of Ronnie and Tracy Harjo, of Norman. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Rosa B. Walker.

Third Grade Pre-Season Tournament Champions



Roff Tigers Third Grade Ada Boys and Girls Club pre-season tournament champions. Front row from left, Wyatt Knickmeyer, Cade Baldridge, Kaden Darnell and Nate Sheppard. Back row from left, Cooper Hardison (Chickasaw), Tallen Bagwell, Garrett Morgan (Chickasaw), Dylan Reed and Coach Eric Hardison (Chickasaw).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Aaron Clemons and Cassie Clemons.

Parents doubling as coaches, mentors

MISSION, Texas – Dinner time feels a lot like a team meeting at the Clemons household.

This Chickasaw family is all about soccer and volleyball. Aaron Clemons is the head girls’ soccer coach at Mission High School, and wife Edna is a soccer assistant and MHS head volleyball coach.

And daughter Cassie, a Mission High senior, is the superb athlete both parents coach.

“We sit at the kitchen table and you’ll see us strategizing,” Mrs. Clemons said. “Whether it’s volleyball or soccer season doesn’t matter.”

Cassie plays both sports and is currently in soccer season. She finished up her MHS career as the volleyball team leader in kills.

In soccer, she has both her parents as coaches every day.

“I’ve always had to live up to the expectations all the time, so I’m kind of used to it,” Cassie said. “Honestly, I wouldn’t want anyone else to be my coach.”

Cassie grew up playing volleyball and her dad convinced her to take up soccer, as well. She has no regrets. Mr. Clemons considers it a blessing to be able to spend more time with his daughter.

“Really, it’s been the last few years that I’ve been coaching her that we’ve really gotten a tight bond,” he said. “The sport has really brought us together as a family.”

Being around her coaches all day, every day, Cassie said, has its advantages and disadvantages. If the team has a bad day, some of that feeling comes home with coaches and player. But Cassie loves to spend time with her parents and feels it’s made her a better player.

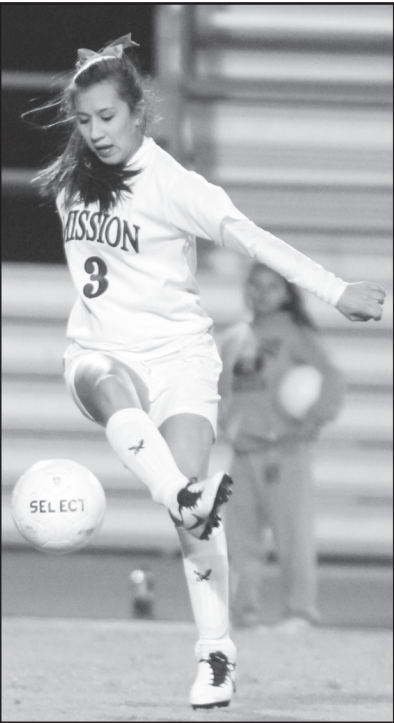
“They’ve always been my coaches and they’ve always been there for me,” Cassie said.

Mrs. Clemons thinks the combination of parent and coach has been a good one.

“I think in the long run it has paid off,” she said. “She’s a very well-rounded athlete. She’s disciplined herself to do what she can and get to that point. She’s done very well.”

Mr. Clemons likes to keep the line between family and team intentionally blurry. It can be tough, he said, but he does his best to make sure the entire team has a family atmosphere.

“I’m dad all the time,” Mr. Clemons said. “I never stop being dad. I treat all these girls like they’re my daughters. All the girls know how I am and I’m not going to give (Cassie) a break. She is treated the same as everyone else.”



Cassie Clemons

Ironhorse wins Jingle Bell Classic



Front row from left, “CJ” Jones (Chickasaw/Byng), Elijah Gibson (Chickasaw/Byng), Deland Cobb (Chickasaw/Byng) and Zac Lumley (Seminole/Konawa). Back row from left, Coach Sara Willie (Chickasaw), Micah Lena (Seminole/Wewoka), Kenan Loggins (Seminole/Wewoka), Avondre Bruner (Seminole/Wewoka) and Kobe Burgess (Chickasaw/Ada).

A boys’ basketball team made up primarily of Chickasaws recently won its second tournament.

Ironhorse is based in Ada, Okla., and is coached by Sara Willie, a Chickasaw. The team won the Jingle Bell Classic basketball tournament played at Wilson

High School. The team played in the seventh-eighth grade boys’ division.

Four Ironhorse players received special recognition for their play. Kobe Burgess was named tournament Most Valuable Player; Avondre Bruner was named Outstanding Defensive Player; and



Erik Martinez

Films of Erik Martinez are winners at annual student art exhibition

NORMAN, Okla. - A Chickasaw university art student has recently had two films honored in a competitive exhibition.

Erik Martinez is a 20-year-old sophomore studying at the University of Oklahoma School of Art and Art History. Mr. Martinez entered two films in the 100th Annual Student Art Exhibition at the Fred Jones Junior Museum of Art in Norman.

Mr. Martinez’ two films were “White Sands Impotent” and “Lonesome Brick.”

The first film is shot in black and white 16mm film and studies intense emotions and how people can feel strange in familiar surroundings.

“Lonesome Brick” is a stop-motion piece that features Lego building blocks.

Mr. Martinez will receive two cash awards totaling \$450 and a certificate of achievement for his entries.

“The quality of work submitted for this exhibition was very high, so you should take particular pride in this award,” interim co-director Dr. Rozmeri Basic wrote to Mr. Martinez.

Mr. Martinez was raised by his grandparents, Alfred J. and Nancy Goate. His sister is Erika G. Martinez.

Family hosts Norwegian exchange student

Anna Burkhart and family, of Marietta, Okla., entertained Norwegian exchange student Linda Berge during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Miss Berge, 17, attends Westmoore High School, Moore, Okla., and lives with Chickasaw citizen Beverly Usry.

Miss Berge enjoyed the holiday events and had never before experienced a Thanksgiving holiday.

She will finish her term at Westmoore in May and return to Norway.



Dr. Lea R. Dopson

Dr. Lea R. Dopson named Collins College Dean

A Chickasaw educator has recently been named to a college leadership post.

Dr. Lea R. Dopson has been named dean of the Collins College of Hospitality Management at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Calif. Dr. Dopson will assume her new duties June 30.

For the past 12 years, she has served as chair of the hospitality and tourism management department at the University of North Texas. During her time as chair, the department forged a good working partnership with the Chickasaw Nation’s WinStar Casinos in Thackerville, Okla.

“We are delighted to welcome Dr. Dopson to the Cal Poly Pomona family,” Collins Provost Marten denBoer said. “Her academic excellence, her knowledge of international education and her professional experience will all serve the Collins College well.”

Dr. Dopson earned her doctorate in administration in higher education with an emphasis in curriculum development from the University of Houston. She earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Texas Tech University.

Chickasaw opens natural beauty products business

A Chickasaw woman has recently opened a business that features all-natural beauty products.

Anita Uhles, of Maysville, Okla., operates Complete Body Essentials in Maysville. Only all-natural ingredients like cocoa butter, goat’s milk, coconut and blueberry are used.

“I just started going through all the creams I had at home,” Ms. Uhles said. “There was so much stuff in them that I couldn’t even pronounce.”

Complete Body Essentials produces its own handcrafted creams, whips, body washes, bath salts, soaps, bubble bath, shampoos and conditioners.

“I see commercial creams and they cost \$20,” Ms. Uhles said. “That’s too much. Who wants to spend that?”

The business phone is (405) 589-7217 and the website is www.cbcreams.com

Kit Colbert named chief tech officer at VMware



Kit Colbert

PALO ALTO, Calif. – A Chickasaw information technology professional has recently been promoted at a technology enterprise company.

Kit Colbert was named chief technology officer of end-user computing at VMware, Inc. VMware is a global leader in virtualization and cloud infrastructure.

Mr. Colbert is a VMware veteran who has worked at the company for over 10 years. He has led high impact product development programs for multiple product lines at the company. Most recently, he served as chief architect for VMware Horizon Workspace where he led technical product development and product strategy.

As chief technology officer, Mr. Colbert’s mission will be to drive product and technology strategy for the company’s product portfolio.

VMware is a NYSE-traded company that achieved \$4.6 billion in revenues in 2012. The company has more than 500,000 customers and 55,000 partners. VMware is headquartered in Silicon Valley.



Cpl. David C. Woodruff, USMC

Cpl. David Woodruff returns from Marines

Corporal David C. Woodruff, USMC, returned home in January following five years of service with the Marines.

He is a proud Chickasaw citizen and plans to attend college in August.

His mother is Sandra Woodruff-Clifford. He is the great-grandson of Andrew Goforth, a U.S. Army veteran.



Kevin Muirhead, right, Electronic Department Games manager at Newcastle Casino accepts the “Business of the Year” award from David Castillo, President, Greater Oklahoma City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Newcastle Gaming named ‘Business of the Year’

A Chickasaw Nation-owned business was recently named “Business of the Year” by an Oklahoma City business group.

The Greater Oklahoma City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce selected the Chickasaw Nation’s Newcastle Casino as its “Business of the Year” at a Dec. 13 awards ceremony in Norman, Okla.

David Castillo, Great Oklahoma City Hispanic Chamber president, said Newcastle Casino had supported chamber programs and the Hispanic community throughout the year.

“Newcastle Casino helps build the involvement in the Latino community by participating in all of our events and fundraisers,” Mr. Castillo said.

Supporting the Hispanic Chamber helps grow programs and services for the community, Newcastle Casino general manager Ryan Sykes said, and supports business throughout the area.

“By supporting the Latino community, we can help make a difference for the community,” Mr. Sykes said. “Being involved with the Hispanic Chamber allows us to help spread the word about the benefits the Hispanic Chamber offers to the community.”

Newcastle Casino is located in Newcastle, Okla., an Oklahoma City suburb. The business offers 2,500 electronic games and 11 table games and features two restaurants.

One of ‘50 states, 50 spots’
for 2014 by CNN Travel.com

Chickasaw Cultural Center named ‘must see’ destination



Chickasaw Cultural Center

SULPHUR, Okla. - The Chickasaw Cultural Center has been named a top national attraction by an international media outlet. CNN Travel.com listed the Chickasaw Cultural Center a “must see” Oklahoma destination in the on-line article, “50 states, 50 spots for 2014,” posted on CNN.com January 2. “To welcome 2014, CNN is offering a travel suggestion for each of the 50 states,” CNN Travel reporter Katia Hetter wrote. “From some of the country’s most glorious national parks to arts festivals and cowboy culture, we’ve got you covered.” The Chickasaw Cultural Center

is named along with iconic destinations such as Yosemite National Park (California), the Grand Canyon National Park (Arizona), the Boston Marathon (Massachusetts), the Jersey Shore (New Jersey) and One World Trade Center (New York). A beautiful sunset photo of the Chickasaw Cultural Center campus is featured on the web page. “Walk through the Removal Corridor to see the bleak journey of the Chickasaw Nation to Oklahoma,” the writer states. “Experience it at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, a space that allows visitors to follow the Chickasaw Nation’s pre-Oklahoma life through

today. The center, which opened in 2010 and sits on more than 100 acres of Chickasaw land in Sulphur, offers visitors the opportunity to see traditional dwellings, join a stomp dance’s inner circle and taste Chickasaw culture at the Aaimpa’ Café, where grape dumplings, Indian fry bread and pashofa (a dish made of hominy and pork similar to corn soup) are served.” To see the post “50 States, 50 Spots for 2014” visit: http://www.cnn.com/2014/01/02/travel/50-states-50-spots-for-2014/index.html?hpt=tr_ci. The Chickasaw Cultural Center is open Monday through Satur-

day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The Chickasaw Cultural Center is located at 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road in Sulphur.

For more information about the Chickasaw Cultural Center visit www.chickasawculturalcenter.com or call (580) 622-7130. CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

About CNN.com

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About CNN

Founded in 1980, the Cable News Network (CNN) is a 24-hour American cable and satellite television channel. The first channel to provide 24-hour television news coverage, CNN was the first all-news channel in the United States.



The Stomp Dance Exhibit in the Chickasaw Cultural Center.

Mike McKee

Clinic honored for design, function,
dedication to health care mission

Tishomingo Health Clinic named among top five facilities



Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Health Clinic

TISHOMINGO, Okla. – Editors at *Healthcare Design Magazine* believe the Chickasaw Nation Health Clinic here is one of the top five facilities in America. The magazine, published in Cleveland, recently cited the Tishomingo clinic and the Chickasaw Nation for constructing the facility in 2013, making it more spacious and expanding services to Native American people. The magazine’s editor-in-chief Kristin Zeit wrote the magazine’s editors chose their “favorite new healthcare projects that opened in 2013.” “Chickasaw Nation Health Clinic Tishomingo, Okla. Completed in (February) 2013. This beautiful, 50,000-square-foot clinic is more than five times the size of the facility it replaced, significantly expanding the space and services for the Native American population it serves. The designers integrated colors and symbols of great significance to the culture in a thoroughly modern and design-forward way,” Zeit



Kristin Zeit
Editor-in-chief

wrote in her blog which may be enjoyed by going to <http://www.healthcaredesignmagazine.com/blogs/kristin-zeit/top-5-architectural-gifts-healthcare-2013>. Four other facilities in America were also cited by Zeit. Located at 815 E. 6th Street in the historic capital city of the Chickasaw Nation, the facility is much larger than the previous clinic, which opened more than 40 years ago. “The opening of this new clinic marks a significant milestone in our ongoing mission to continually improve health services for Chickasaws and all Native Americans we serve,” Gov. Bill Anoatubby said at the clinic’s dedication. “We are excited about these new and expanded services in Tishomingo. “Our health care team works diligently to offer the high-quality health care so vital to the overall quality of life. This new clinic is designed and equipped to empower our staff with the best tools available.” Features of the new clinic include 21 exam rooms, 12 dental chairs,

drive-thru pharmacy services, ultrasound exams, mammograms, bone density scans and hearing exams. Oklahoma Optical also provides its services at the new clinic, and a full-time behavioral health specialist is on-site. The unique design and decor of the building reflects the tribe’s traditions and culture and was specifically pointed out by Zeit’s *Healthcare Design Magazine* blog. The clinic added 25 new jobs to the Tishomingo area, including doctors, nurses and support staff, thanks to the unique joint venture partnership with the U.S. Indian Health Service. Under the program, the Chickasaw Nation funded construction of the clinic and IHS offered additional funds for staffing and operation for 20 years. Gov. Anoatubby said the joint venture program provides a “great return” on the tribe’s investment. “This program benefits everyone involved,” Gov. Anoatubby said. “This plan provides a state-of-the-art facility for our patients without requiring a large initial

budget expenditure from the Indian Health Service. It also provides a higher level of funding for staffing over time, which will be a great benefit to our patients.” The Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Health Clinic is one of only three Joint Venture Construction programs awarded nationwide in fiscal year 2011. About Joint Venture Program The Joint Venture construction program was established to develop partnerships between tribes and the Indian Health Service. Under the competitive program, tribes who acquire or construct a tribally-owned health care facility may be selected to participate. In exchange for purchasing or constructing a health care facility with tribal funds, the Indian Health Service provides funding for certain staffing and operational costs. The Chickasaw Nation Division of Health serves more than 500,000 patients each year in the 370,000-square-foot Medical Center in Ada, Okla., and health clinics in Ada, Ardmore, Tishomingo, Durant and Purcell. For more information about the Tishomingo Health Clinic visit www.chickasaw.net, or call 877-240-2720.

History of the Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Clinic The Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Clinic was established in the 1960s in a small building on Main Street when Indian Health Service opened a number of “storefront” outpatient facilities in Oklahoma communities. Prior to opening of these local facilities, Native American patients had to travel to Lawton, Tahleah or Shawnee for health services. From the Main Street location, the Tishomingo Clinic moved to a building on Neshoba Street. A new facility, located at 815 E. 6th Street, was built in the 1970s. Through the years, the Chickasaw Nation added the additional space and services to the existing building. In addition to services including a dental clinic, laboratory and a pharmacy, the Tishomingo Clinic offers an eye clinic, behavioral health, x-ray, pre-natal care and well-baby visits, Women, Infants and Children’s (WIC) nutrition program and periodic specialty clinics. CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

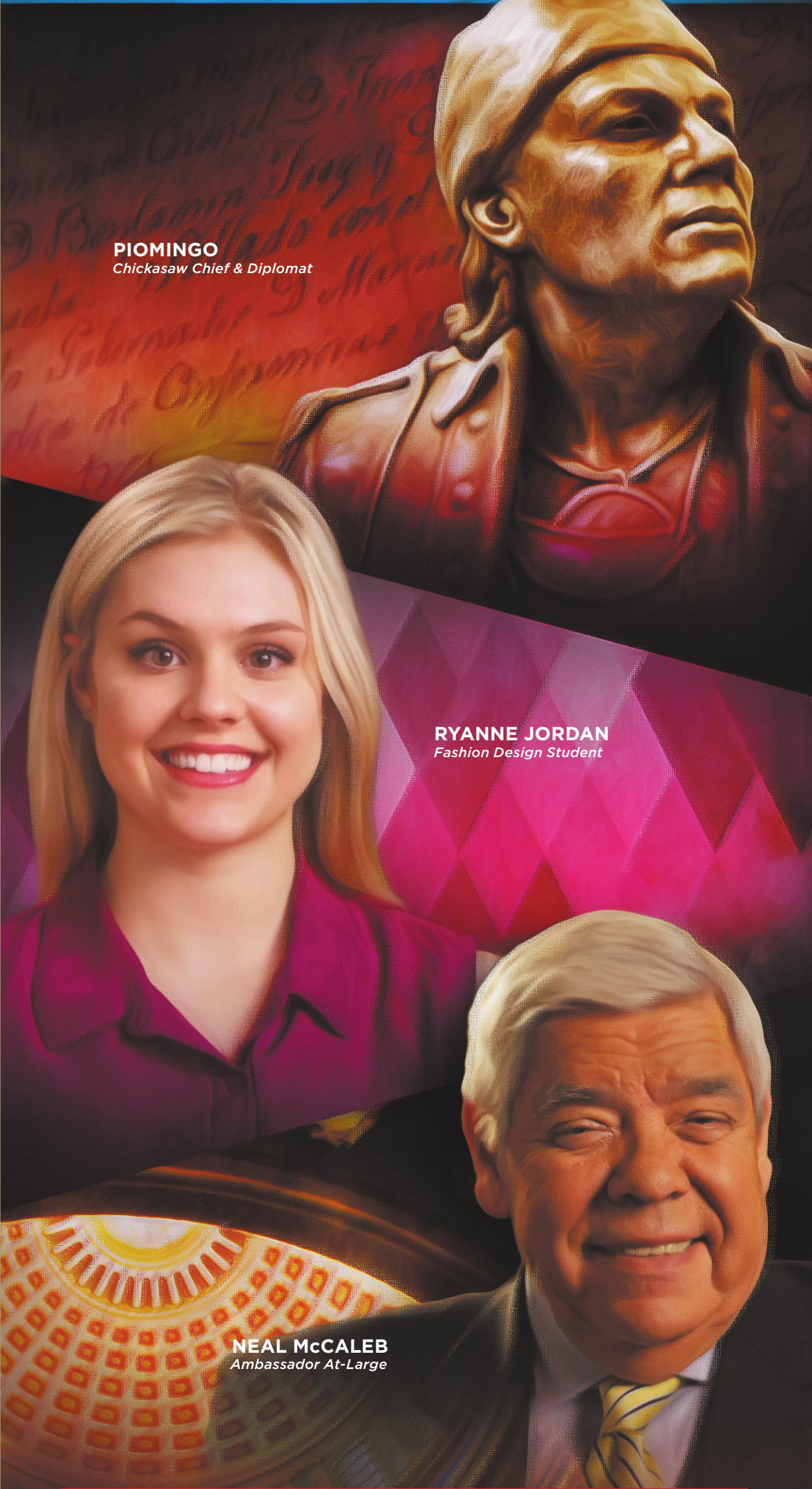
Unique ‘baby shower’ in Ardmore provides important items for families with young children

ARDMORE, Okla. – A unique “baby shower” that provides families with items they need for their young children is set for Feb. 27 in Ardmore. MAMA Knows, Inc., is already collecting donated items to give away to pregnant and parenting mothers and fathers with preschool-age children. Items range from little baby books to three-dimensional ultrasounds. “This event is a wonderful opportunity to give parents a little something they might not have,” executive director Kayla Heltzel said. Local businesses and nonprofit

organizations can drop off items at the MAMA Knows office, 10 W. Main Street, Suite 420 in Ardmore. Other dropoff locations are Reed Family Pharmacy, Pronto Print and the Dollar Store in Healdton. The “baby shower” will be Thursday, Feb. 27 beginning at 5 p.m. at the Santa Fe train depot in Ardmore. At the shower, attendees will receive information and health tips on having and caring for a healthy baby. For more information or to donate items, call (580) 226-4238 or email winterstar@mamaknowsinc.org.

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Medical Center prenatal classes offer SIDS information

Indian babies more likely to die from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

Each year in the United States nearly 4,000 infants die suddenly while sleeping, with no immediate obvious cause. After medical examinations, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is directly attributed to more than 2,500 of these deaths according to information released in 2012 by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Native Americans are more susceptible to SIDS than any other group of people. The U.S. Department of Human Services Office of Minority Health estimates Indian babies are twice as likely as the general population to suffer from SIDS. Overall, Indians have a higher infant mortality rate higher than the general population.

SIDS is the leading cause of death for infants under the age of one, and is the third leading cause overall of infant mortality in the U.S.

While most conditions show specific symptoms before medical incidents, SIDS is only diagnosed after the fact. Medical review of SIDS cases examine the infants' medical histories, sleeping environments and existing surroundings to separate SIDS cases from those of abuse, choking or undiagnosed medical problems.

The exact cause of SIDS is unknown. Many medical professionals believe SIDS is caused by many factors, including problems with a baby's brain regarding waking, and the inability for a baby to detect buildup of carbon dioxide in his blood.

Infants are not the only victims of SIDS. Parents who have lost children to SIDS feel intense grief and often have feelings of guilt. These feelings can be intensified by medical and police investigations. This can put strain on relationships and can lead to emotional and physical problems. Counseling is recommended to help couples understand and communicate their feelings.

Ways to help prevent SIDS

SIDS in the U.S. has decreased substantially in the last 20 years. The American Academy of Pediatrics released recommendations in 1992 that helped reduce SIDS-related deaths by 50 percent. The recommendations are helpful

and easy to follow.

"The prenatal classes we have at the Medical Center address SIDS," Dawnna Brittian, Women, Infant and Children educator at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, said. "After birth we have videos new parents watch about the benefits of children sleeping on their backs and other safe sleeping guidelines."

Researchers have found that babies who sleep on their backs are safest. This includes nap times as well as at night. Healthy babies will naturally swallow or cough while on their back and there is no increase of potential choking. Babies who use pacifiers when put to bed are less likely to be touched by SIDS.

Sleep surfaces should be solid and have support. Firm crib mattresses with fitted sheets are recommended by medical professionals. Pillows, quilts and other soft surfaces are potential choking hazards. Loose bedding, toys and plush toys should not be placed around sleeping babies or in their cribs. Babies should not sleep in the same bed as parents, or in adult beds.

Temperature plays role in cases of SIDS. Avoid too much heat in your baby's room. Dress baby in light sleeping clothes, just enough to keep baby warm without using a cover. If the room is comfortable to parents, it will be comfortable for baby.

Good prenatal care reduces the risk of SIDS. Avoid alcohol, drugs and tobacco during pregnancy and once the newborn has arrived. Make sure to keep all scheduled medical check-ups and immunizations. Professionals encourage breast feeding. Breast-feeding reduces the chance of respiratory infections, and rates of SIDS deaths are lower for breast-fed babies.

"Moms who smoke or are around second hand smoke during pregnancies are almost 10 times as likely to have a child with SIDS," Ms. Brittian said. "After birth it's important to keep babies away from smokers. Smoke increases their chances of getting respiratory illness."

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center at (580) 436-3980.

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs.

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'Go Red for Women' campaign during Heart Disease Awareness Month

Medical Center focusing on bringing down women's risk factors

February marks the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign. The "Go Red for Women" movement represents a decade of working to prevent heart disease and save women's lives. Heart disease is the leading cause of death among both men and women in the U.S. Native American women are at higher risks for heart disease and die from heart disease at younger ages than any other ethnic group within the U.S. High diabetes rates, being overweight and high blood pressure all are contributing factors that increase heart disease risk. For the Indian women who smoke cigarettes and are physically inactive, the risk is even higher. The Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada, Okla., works hard throughout the year to bring awareness to Indian men and women. Heart disease symptoms are more likely to be taken lightly by women. Symptoms of a heart attack are often similar for both men and

women. However, women tend to show some symptoms that are often less likely to indicate a heart attack. Teaching women to recognize the most overlooked symptoms can help them become more self-aware, according to Barbara Quinlan, manager of cardiology at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. "Chest pain or pressure, back pain, pain radiating into the jaw or down the left arm, sudden fatigue and shortness of breath are the most common symptoms reported by our Native American women," Ms. Quinlan said. She also gives this helpful advice to women: "Reducing risk factors, such as smoking, poor diet, controlling diabetes and getting more exercise, can reduce overall risk for heart disease." Because clinics like the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center Cardiology Clinic are bringing more awareness to the cause, a reduction in the number of heart disease deaths has been accomplished.

This has a lot to do with the ongoing national campaign to raise awareness of heart disease. Many women often bypass the opportunity to seek proper treatment because they don't immediately recognize the symptoms. Often, this results in further damage to the heart. Women are far less likely than men to get complete diagnostic work-ups for chest pain. When women do not get the proper testing for heart disease, they are further placing themselves at risk. Heart disease continues to be the number one killer of women, causing one of every three deaths. Heart disease kills more women than men and, on average, a woman dies every minute from heart disease. Heart disease also is a killer of more women than all types of cancer combined. Heart disease is known as a group of diseases that deal directly with the heart and the blood vessel system that connects to it. Coronary artery disease is the most common type of heart disease, directly affecting those

heart blood vessels. This type of heart disease can often cause a person to have angina or even a heart attack. When a person's heart is not getting enough blood, angina or chest pain is likely to occur. **Common heart attack symptoms in women can include:** Chest pressure or pain, often described as a feeling of heaviness that does not go away with rest. Weakness or fatigue Shortness of breath Nausea or vomiting Clammy or sweaty skin Feeling faint, or dizzy Pain that spreads to the back, neck, shoulders, jaw, or arms It is important to realize that women are more likely than men to experience no chest pain during the course of a heart attack, so it is especially important for women to observe any other "flu-like" symptoms similar to those listed above. Less common symptoms can also occur in women including an unusual feeling of tiredness, problems breathing,

trouble sleeping, indigestion (upset stomach) or anxiety. There is often a misconception that men need to worry more about having heart attacks, so women and their health care providers tend to ignore certain symptoms. The Women's Heart Foundation is a great place to research the facts about women and heart attacks. According to foundation research, 62 percent of heart failure-related deaths every year occur in women. Bringing awareness to this life-threatening disease will inform more women about the signs and symptoms. Taking the proper steps to prevent heart disease is the first step toward taking control of one's own health. For more information about prevention of heart disease among women, or to join in on bringing awareness to your community, please visit the American Heart Association's website at www.heart.org, or visit the Chickasaw Nation website at www.chickasaw.net. CONTRIBUTED BY Amber Carey, Public Affairs.

Influenza spiked in late December; 40 states have high flu activity

Since flu season began in September, many Oklahomans have been diagnosed and treated for influenza or flu-like symptoms. Flu season reached its peak in December when hospitals began to see dramatic increases in the number of patients suffering flu-like symptoms.

The last week of December alone saw a huge rise in the number of positive result influenza tests given at Oklahoma hospitals and health clinics. A majority of those testing positive for influenza contracted influenza A 2009 (H1), known as H1N1. This is the same virus that caused the 2009

swine flu pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that flu activity is increasing at a rapid rate nationally. Oklahoma is one of the 40 states experiencing high flu activity. The flu is a contagious respiratory illness that can range from mild to severe, and serious outcomes from the flu can include hospitalization, and in some cases death. According to the CDC, 25 percent of people who arrive at the hospital sick and are tested end up being positive for influenza. The other 75 percent of people with flu-like symptoms who have a negative flu test results are suffering from other viruses that cause the same type of symptoms. This year's flu shot protects against the influenza A 2009 (H1N1), and it is not too late to be vaccinated. Health experts are urging the public to protect themselves and their families this flu season by getting the flu vaccination. According to Michael Peercy, MPH, MT (ASCP) H, Epidemiologist, Biostatistician and IRB Administrator for the Department of Epidemiology, Research and Public Health at the Chickasaw

Nation Department of Health, "the lab reports that between December 1, 2013 and January 3, 2014, 511 patients were tested throughout the Department of Health (Chickasaw Nation Medical Center and satellite Clinics). "Of the 511 patients tested, 88 were positive for influenza A. December 1-15, 2013 only had three positive flu tests, so there was a noticeable increase in the number of patients who tested positive in

a very short amount of time." For more information on the flu, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov, the Oklahoma State Department of Health website at www.ok.gov, or call your local health clinic, hospital, or primary care physician to schedule an appointment to get your yearly flu vaccination. CONTRIBUTED BY Amber Carey, Public Affairs.

Barcode medication system initiated

We've all seen barcodes on retail items. They are those little strips of vertical black lines checkers scan to identify and charge for the items. Now, barcodes will be a part of important processes at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada. Beginning February 5, the Medical Center will begin implementation of bar code medication administration (BCMA). The goals of BCMA are improved accuracy, preventing errors and generating online records of medication administration. BCMA is a security system. It helps the nurse provide precise care through a systematic routine called the "five rights" (right patient, right medication, right time,

right dose, right route). **How does BCMA work?** The nurse uses a wireless barcode scanner to scan the patient's wristband to verify the right patient prior to administering medications. This is the first of the "five rights" of medication administration. The nurse then scans the medication barcode to verify the right medication, right dose, right time and right route based on what medication has been ordered by the patient's provider in the computer system. If any of the five rights are inaccurate, the scanning system prompts the nurse, thus avoiding a medication error.

November 2013 Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Awards

Outstanding Academic Achievement
Kyla Underwood
Kyla Underwood, 11, daughter of Faron and Kelly Underwood, is a December 2013 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. Kyla is in the fifth grade at Charles Evans Elementary in Ardmore, Okla. She was nominated by her teacher, Melanie Miller. "Kyla is a very hard worker," Ms. Miller said. "Her behavior is excellent and she is a great role model for others." Kyla enjoys basketball, reading, Wii games, playing on her Kindle and singing. An excellent student, Kyla has been



recognized as student of the month, earned a citizenship award, has been listed on the principal's honor roll and the superintendent's honor roll. "For my extracurricular activities, I have played basketball at the Y for four years and will be playing at HFV Wilson Community Center this year," Kyla shared. "When I grow up," Kyla said, "I want to be a teacher or a veterinarian." Kyla participates in honor choir and has been in the talented and gifted program for two years. **Outstanding Citizenship**
Olivia Hilton
Olivia Hilton, 9, daughter of Billy and Sarah Hilton, is a December 2013 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Citizenship Award. Olivia is in the third



grade at Latta School in Ada, Okla. She was nominated by her teacher, Bobbie Priest. "Olivia is a very sweet and kind-hearted student," Ms. Priest said. "She always comes to class ready to learn. She gives her all every day in every subject." Olivia appreciates art and is currently learning watercolor techniques. She likes fishing, boating, swimming, riding her bike and karaoke. An avid collector, Olivia loves the beach and adding to her shell and gem collections. One day, Olivia hopes to become a dental hygienist because she "loves to help people." She also looks forward to being a wife and mother. Olivia has an older sister, a younger brother, three cats, a rabbit and a dog. CONTRIBUTED BY Miranda Elliott, Public Affairs.

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Men often have classic warnings; women may experience no signs at all

Indian men, women face different warning signs of heart attack

Heart disease kills more people in America than any other condition. Factors contributing to, or exacerbating, heart disease include diet, obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, stress and more. For Native Americans, the propensity of heart disease is linked to multiple health risks for which they are most susceptible, such as diabetes and high blood pressure. American Heart Association (AHA) statistics for 2013 show: Among American Indian men ages 45-74, the incidence of heart disease ranges from 15 to 28 per 1,000 population. Among women, that figure is 9 to 15 per 1,000. Among American Indians or Alaska Natives, 12.7 percent have heart disease, 25.8 percent have high blood pressure and 4.6 percent have suffered a stroke. In 2009, heart disease resulted in 1,813 deaths among American Indians or Alaska Natives. Among American Indians 65 to 74 years of age, the annual rates per 1,000 population of new and recurrent myocardial infarction (MI) were 7.6 for men and 4.9 for women. MI is what your doctor calls it. You call it a heart attack. In 2009, heart attacks killed 600 American Indians or Alaska Natives. One of the most insidious facts about Native Americans suffering a heart attack is this: all the classic symptoms you have been warned to watch for may not happen at all. In fact, silent heart attacks are suffered more frequently by Native Americans who also suffer from diabetes, according to AHA. Chest pressure, pain in the jaw, left arm discomfort, indigestion or heartburn all can be warning signs. Those symptoms are typically experienced by men. Native American women face far different warning signs of heart disease or heart attack. According to medical professionals, women are more likely to feel upper back

pain, experience profuse sweating, become nauseated and suffer pain in their jaws. Since 1984, more women have died from heart disease than men. One in three women will die as the result of heart attacks. That's a heart attack per minute in America, according to AHA. If you have a body mass index (BMI) of 25 or less you probably aren't at risk. If your BMI is 30 or above, your heart attack risk is elevated. While there is not an easy "fix" for heart disease, you can make lifestyle changes which will improve your health, lower your heart attack risk, and allow you to live a better life. First, stop smoking. According to AHA, nearly 28 percent of all Native Americans smoke. Quit now. Save some money and save your life. Second, get moving. Did you know simply walking helps your heart? In fact, it is the preferred exercise for people 45 and older, according to AHA. Do it for 40 minutes most days of the week. You will not only feel better, but you might find yourself fitting into those clothes you haven't worn lately because the fit is snug. Third, eat correctly. Fruits, vegetables, low-fat, low-sodium, fish and nuts are all good for you. Instead of a Big Mac eat broccoli instead. The office donut box is off limits, too. Because Indians are facing a number of health risks linked to heart disease, a program has been created to help them by AHA. It is called Heart 360 and is a web-based initiative. It is administered by a Native American, Rachel Crawford. Its goals for 2014 are outlined on its website. Go to www.heart360.org/nativeamerican to find out more about it. You may email Crawford directly at Rachelcrawford@heart.org or may telephone 405-948-2134. CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Chickasaw girls promote healthy living as AHA ‘sweethearts’



Michael and Mikayla Hook prepare a heart-healthy chicken chili recipe in their Tishomingo home.

CHICKASAW COUNTRY -- Michael Hook peered down at the kitchen counter at a heart-healthy chicken chili he and daughter, Mikayla, were preparing. "When we're done, let's go to Sonic," he quipped. That sounded good to Mikayla, a 17-year-old junior. But, after all, she had just been accepted as an American Heart Association Sweetheart and completing a meal from the unprepared chicken chili ingredients spread out before her was sort of a requirement. Well, in fact, it was required. So father and daughter mixed, mashed, chopped, cooked, stirred and then ... with much trepidation ... consumed the meal. "We absolutely loved it. Neither one of us thought it would be so delicious because it was considered 'healthy,'" Mikayla said. "We ate and ate and ate. It was nearly all gone by the end of the evening." "Still want to go to Sonic," Mikayla chided her dad after the meal. "Nope," he muttered. Healthy foods also passed Annie Wall's taste test. The once Doubting Thomas is a full convert now. There's no going back

to junk food for her. Both young women participate in The Chikasha Apihchi Ikbi Program (Youth Leadership). The Chickasaw Nation sponsors two high school girls involved in its youth leadership program to be sweethearts. This year, the tribe is represented by Annie and Mikayla. Annie is thrilled she was nominated and chosen. It has been a



Annie Wall's AHA Sweetheart photograph.

life-changing experience for her and her parents, Angela and Aron Khoury. "A father-daughter heart-healthy cooking class was offered through the heart association. They taught us how to fully prepare a heart-healthy meal from scratch -- from the main course to dessert -- and it tasted really good," Annie said. "They teach you how to use different ingredients, like apple sauce or horseradish, as seasoning in meals. I was surprised, really. It (the meal) was tremendous." Mikayla is also thankful to be an AHA Sweetheart. She is making new friends, expanding her networking base, her mother Deborah's diabetes is under control and her fitness regimen is paying off in all her athletic endeavors -- basketball, softball, track, and golf. "The sweetheart program teaches you to be healthy and how to stay healthy; how to encourage others to stay healthy, too," Mikayla said. The Hook family is practicing what Mikayla is preaching.

Instead of sugary soda pop and sweet tea, the family consumes water. At least three vegetables are prepared at each meal. Everyone in the Hook family is stronger, burning calories and feeling better through exercise. Though Annie is a Vanoss athlete and exercises regularly, her involvement as a sweetheart opened her eyes to a healthier lifestyle and a healthier life. She brought what she learned to the family dinner table, not only to make sure the family's hearts stay healthy, but also to run interference against diabetes, a disease prevalent in her family. "My whole family is on a health kick now," Annie said, adding the family exercises and eats healthy food prepared in a healthy way. Her mother, Angela, said the family exercise room is completed and said her husband's "borderline" blood pressure issue has been addressed. The family even lost a few pounds and everyone feels pretty good. There are benefits for Mikayla, too. "I used to hate to run. I hated it. Now, I run about three miles a day," Mikayla said. She's jumping rope, too, while wearing angle weights, doing pushups, and jumping on a trampoline she received as a Christmas gift to build up her legs and get her heart pumping. She shoots a basketball a greater distance; jumps higher on rebounds; runs bases faster and "I'm not skinny as a toothpick" anymore," she says with pride. Mikayla is building muscle. "I love the sweetheart program and I am so honored to be chosen. The Chickasaw youth leadership program is great. I've been on the Governor's Honor Roll since third grade and I'm always grateful for the opportunities the leadership program provides to me." Aside from sports, Mikayla is active as a student council representative and involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). Annie also is involved in FCA. While Mikayla won't graduate from Tishomingo High School until 2015, she is already planning

for college. She'll be right at home at Murray State College where she intends to finish her core classes and then transfer to East Central University in Ada. She wants to be an attorney. "The thing that made the biggest impression on me is anyone can stay active and be healthier. You can do it from home. A lot of times I will exercise to rock or pop music or watch fitness videos on TV," Mikayla said. Because of the sweetheart program, she is now dismissing comments she is "too short" to compete. "I am proof anyone can do it, be active, and keep healthy. It feels great," she said. The highlight of the year for sweethearts will occur Feb. 22, 2014, at one of the most prestigious black-tie galas in Oklahoma City. Held the past 33 years, the American Heart Association Heart Ball will be celebrated at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. The sweethearts have learned how to stay fit, how to cook healthy meals, how to administer CPR and use a heart defibrillator, in addition to fundraising techniques and how to encourage smoking cessation. A year-end celebration will be held in May when all the sweethearts will congregate together in a farewell gathering and share their most memorable experiences. For Annie, college is on the horizon. A varsity utility softball player, both fast-pitch and slow-pitch, Ms. Wall also serves as manager of the Vanoss High School basketball team. "I primarily played shortstop or first base," she said. Her activities on the softball field kept her heart rate up, kept her healthy and helped her achieve peak performance on the field. But she may hang up her mitt after graduating and commit herself to college. Annie intends to pursue a career in physical therapy with disabled individuals. "I'm not going to concentrate only on sports-related injuries. I want to help people who are disabled regardless of the reason." CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.



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Chickasaw Foundation
announces Spring 2014
scholarship recipients



Angela Brewer



Tanner Hawkins



Olivia Shaffer



Madison Wilson

The Chickasaw Foundation is pleased to announce Ms. Angela Brewer as the recipient of the spring 2014 Division on Aging Scholarship. She is a senior at Bossier Parish Community College (BPCC) participating in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

Mr. Tanner Hawkins is the spring 2014 recipient of the James & Carolee Cundiff Grants. He is a freshman at Oklahoma Christian University majoring in journalism.

Ms. Olivia Shaffer is the spring 2014 recipient of The Hill Group Scholarship. She is a sophomore English education major at Whitworth University in Gig Harbor, Washington.

Ms. Madison Wilson is the spring 2014 recipient of the Ithana (Education) Scholarship. She is freshman nursing student at East Central University.



Chickasaw Foundation Annual
T-Ball Tournament

The 6th annual Chickasaw Foundation T-Ball Tournament will be April 25-26, 2014 at the Chickasaw Nation Softball Complex in Ada.

This will be a double-elimina-

tion tournament and only the first 10 teams will be accepted. The entry fee is \$100 and the age cut-off date is January 1. Players must be six years old on or before December 31 to play.

Memorial Donations

The Chickasaw Foundation was established in 1971 as a 501 (c) 3 organization. Every year the foundation is fortunate to receive many charitable donations and memorial donations. A memorial donation is a special way of remembering a loved one while helping others. Acknowledgement cards can be sent to family members, per your request, upon a donation being received by the Chickasaw Foundation.

Please contact our office at (580) 421-9030 if you have any questions.

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CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS

For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

- OKLAHOMA

ACHILLE

Achille Area Chickasaws

Quarterly, last Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

Kay Anders, 580-283-3979

CONNERVILLE

Connerville Chickasaw Community Council

Bi-Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Tony Poe, 580-421-4994

KINGSTON

Chickasaws of Texoma

Quarterly, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Ruth McAdoo, 580-564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council

Quarterly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Sarah Lea, 580-564-4570

NEWCASTLE

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council

Monthly, 2nd Thursday

Potluck at 6 p.m. and Meeting at 7 p.m.

Todd Griffith, 405-615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council

1st Tuesday

Potluck at 6 p.m. and Meeting at 7 p.m.

Betty Smith at (405) 348-7459

pikeyscrossing@yahoo.com

PURCELL

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council

4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Carolee Maxwell, 405-527-7676

- TISHOMINGO

Johnston County Chickasaw Community Council

Bi-monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Ann Fink, 580-371-3351

ARIZONA

Chickasaws of Arizona

Quarterly Meetings

Angie Ott, 480-834-7309

CALIFORNIA

Southern California Chickasaw Community Council

Quarterly, 3rd Saturday 2:00 p.m.

Bill Chandler, 714-604-5224 or wchandler@so-cal.rr.com

Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection

Quarterly

Phil Reynolds, 916-988-8182

COLORADO

Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado

Bi-Monthly

Stephen Bingham, 303-377-4637

KANSAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita

Quarterly, 3rd Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Lynn Stumblingbear, (316) 945-9219

LOUISIANA

Monroe Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection

Semi-Annually

Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

MISSOURI

St. Louis Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection

Quarterly

Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

- NEW ENGLAND

New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection

Semi-Annually

Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council

Quarterly

Rita Yepa, 505-350-8372

OREGON/WASHINGTON

Pacific Northwest Chickasaw Community Council

Quarterly

Kim Factor, 503-819-3097 or Rena Smith, 503-543-7401

TEXAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas

2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.

Charles Holland, 512-341-0024

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas

Monthly, 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.

Nancy McLarry, 830-537-4576 or 210-313-4576

npm@gvtc.com

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council

3rd Saturday, Bedford, Texas

Sandra Williams, 817-688-6566

sandyntx@sbcglobal.net

Tyler Area Chickasaw Community Council

Quarterly

Howard Thompson, 903-570-9244

Emily Johnson Dickerson



Emily “Shonsh-She” Dickerson, 93, of Ada, Okla., died December 30, 2013 at her home. Services were Jan. 4, 2014 at the Criswell Funeral Home Chapel, Ada, with Revs. Louise Marrs and Bill Alexander officiating. Larry Colbert served as speaker. Burial followed in Steedman Cemetery.

Mrs. Dickerson was born February 22, 1920 in the Steedman/Kullihoma area to Gipson and Julia Alexander Johnson. She married Joseph Whitley Dickerson on January 17, 1968 in Ada. He preceded her in death on December 6, 1979.

As a young girl, she worked in the fields picking cotton, shaking peanuts, and chaffing broom corn at harvest time and she was a ranch laborer.

She loved to pick wild onions, blackberries and pecans. Later, she was a homemaker. Mrs. Dickerson is one of the last remaining monolingual speakers of the Chickasaw language. She was a full-blood citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and proud of her native Chickasaw way of life.

She was a Christian and a member of the Pentecostal Holiness Church in Ada.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her infant twin brother; brothers, Louis Johnson, Joe Johnson, Palmer Johnson, Robert Johnson, Lee Johnson and Frank Johnson; and half-sisters, Emiline Johnson and Wynnne Johnson.

She is survived by two sons, Carlin Thompson and wife, Juanita, of Tulsa, and Joe Looney and wife, Armetta, of Davis, Okla.; a daughter, Wilma Kincaide and husband, Ron, of Muskogee, Okla.; a sister, Leona Seckinger, of Allen, Okla.; grandchildren, Nedra Thompson, Dawn Thompson, Paul Thompson, Carlin John Thompson, Shannon Wilson, and Rodney Wilson, all of Muskogee, and Sarah Arles, of Ardmore, Okla., and Robert Fixico, of Denton, Texas; great-grandchildren, Helowah Adams, Chase Adams, Yaquin Harjo, Paul Thompson Jr., Micah John, July Thompson, Shelby Field and Jarrin Field, all of Muskogee, and Aaliyah Reynolds and Davonte Smith of Ardmore; and several nieces and nephews.

Bearers were Larry Colbert, Gary Colbert, Martin Stick, Jack Reiridon, Mark Johnson and Russell “Scoot” Roberts.

Obituaries may be viewed and online condolences sent to criswellfh.com.

Narcisse Alexander



Narcisse Alexander, 38, died December 5, 2013 at Ada, Okla. Services were December 11, at Allen School Auditorium with Rev. Gene Williams and Rev. Steve Wilburn officiating. Interment followed at Boiling Springs

Cemetery.

He was born August 15, 1975 to Wallace and Jean Alexander at Ada.

He was a resident of Norman, Okla. He worked for Norman Specialty Clinic for several years as a mechanic. He was a true Sooner fan and enjoyed all the Sooner sports. He also enjoyed the outdoors and fishing. He especially loved his family and spending time with them.

He is survived by his wife Jennifer Alexander, of the home, mother Jean Tiger, of Allen, Okla., two brothers, Jonathan Alexander and wife, Erin, of Norman, and Randall Alexander, of Lawton, Okla.; grandparents Gene and Leota Williams; two nieces, Allyssa Bates and Tariah Alexander; three nephews, Jaden Alexander, Josiah Bates and Gregory Bates; and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Wallace Alexander; and grandparents, Jeff and Elsie Alexander.

Pallbearers were Jacob Williams, Carey Frazier, Sean Burgess, Ron Frazier, Chad Smith and Robbie Wells.

Online guestbook and condolences are available at www.philipsfuneralservice.com

Margaret Louise Carpenter



Margaret Louise Carpenter died Dec. 27, 2013. A service to celebrate her life was December 31 at Lunn’s Colonial Chapel, Wichita Falls, Texas with Reverend Merwin Turner officiating. A graveside service, led by her nephew, Rusty Palmer, followed at Sunny Lane Cemetery in Del City, Okla., where she was laid to rest with her husband, Marshall, and son, Eddie.

Mrs. Carpenter was born September 11, 1916 to Ed and Auda (Smith) Burkett in a farm house near Newcastle, Okla. She married Marshall Carpenter on August 23, 1937 in Los Angeles, Calif.

She led a rich, fulfilling life during her 97 plus years. She was a bookkeeper for several businesses in Lindsay, Okla., before retirement and enjoyed her time with family and friends at their (Marshall and Louise) homes in Trinidad, Colorado, McAllen, Texas, and Lindsay. She had lived in Wichita Falls since the mid-90’s and enjoyed playing cards and dominoes with her best friend Helen Richardson and friends at Presbyterian Manor in Wichita Falls.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and faithful friend to all that knew and loved her. Her love for Jesus and passion for leading a Christian life served as a testimony to all of us.

She was preceded in death by her husband of fifty-three years, Marshall; and by a son, Eddie; her father and mother, Ed and Auda Burkett; four brothers, Leo, Roy, Robert, and Gordon Burkett; and a sister Mary Houck.

She is survived by a son Bob Carpenter and wife, Sheryl, of Burkburnett; and a brother Gerald Burkett and wife, Betty, of Houston; two grandsons Chris Carpenter and wife, Shandy, of Bolton, Mass., and Kevin Carpenter and wife, Robin, of Frisco, Texas; four granddaughters, Shelby Hodges and husband Tanner, of Wichita Falls, Courtney Carpenter, of Wichita Falls, Julie Boardman and husband Chris, of Phoenix, Ariz., and April Bryant and husband Shawn, of Cave Creek, Ariz.; two great-grandsons, Pey-

ton and Tyler; and seven great-granddaughters, Kate, Liz, Campbell, Griffin, Caroline, Abigail, and Annalise.

The family has requested that memorials be made in her memory to Hospice of Wichita Falls, 4909 Johnson Road, Wichita Falls, Texas 76310.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.lunnscolonial.com

James Albert “Jim” Browder



James Albert “Jim” Browder, 76, of Tishomingo, Okla., died Dec. 15, 2013 at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, Ada, Okla. Services were December 17 at the Herb Clark Memorial Chapel in at Clark Funeral Service in Tishomingo with Brother Mike Horath officiating. Interment followed in the Condon Grove Cemetery, Milburn, Okla.

He was born June 5, 1937 at Shawnee, Okla., to L. R. Browder and Oleta (Ward) Browder. He attended several different schools while his father worked in the oilfields. He graduated from high school at Cobb, Okla. He married Judy Robinson January 6, 1958 at Ardmore, Okla. They would have celebrated 56 years of marriage in January 2014.

He worked many years drilling water wells and later owned and operated a sand blasting company from which he retired a few years ago. He was a member of the Fillmore Missionary Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister, Virginia Branch.

He is survived by his wife Judy, of the home; two daughters, Cindy Contreras, of Ft. Worth, Texas and Jalinda Kelley, of Ada; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild with another on the way; and other relatives and friends.

Honorary Pallbearers were Mike Cypert, John Anthony, Randy Anthony, Hercel Lofton, Clayton Pryor, Allen Fowler and friends at the Dairy Queen.

Online condolences may be sent to clarkfuneralservice.net

Dennis Lynn Hamilton



Dennis Lynn Hamilton, 58, died Dec. 30, 2013 in Oklahoma City. Services were Jan. 4, 2014 at the Mill Creek (OK) High School Gymnasium with Randy Wade officiating. Interment followed at the Mill Creek Cemetery.

He was born Oct 13, 1955 at Ada, Okla., to Andris J. “Yellow Wolf” and Oretha (Emerson) Hamilton.

A lifelong resident of Mill Creek Mr. Hamilton was a 1973 graduate of Mill Creek High School. He spent 25-plus years working at the Unimin Sand Plant prior to retirement. Most recently, he worked as a houseman at the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur. He never passed up the opportunity for a good game of fast-pitch softball. He enjoyed watching children and grandchildren play sports, garage selling and attending the “Dog Trade” at Sulphur, Okla., on

Sunday mornings. He was an avid OU and Dallas Cowboy fan.

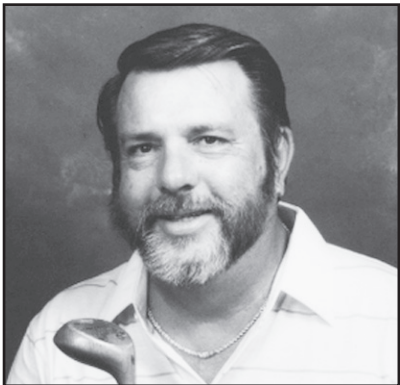
He is survived by two sons, Derek Hamilton and wife, Michelle, of Ardmore, Okla., and Clovis Hamilton and wife, Catie, of Ada; two daughters, Laura Hamilton and JR Komalty, of Anadarko, Okla., and Deidra Hamilton and Joseph Arles, of Mill Creek; his mother, Oretha Ledford, of Marlow, Okla.; eight grandchildren, Taylor, Joslyn, Trinity, Tristyn, Kyra, Creed, Kiley and Haylee; three sisters, Angela Richardson, Denice Larence and Robbin Howard; and a brother, Ricky Hamilton.

Dennis was preceded in death by his father, “Yellow Wolf” and his step-father, James Ledford.

Serving as pallbearers were Michael Cornelius, Alan Kirby, Herman “Bubba” Bice, Jerry Wood, Ronald Aduddell, Wilson Seawright, Larry Seawright and Monte Tolbert. Honorary bearers were Robert Hamilton, Herb Hamilton, Scott Clark, Geary Blevins and Shoat Wisdom.

On line condolences may be offered at halesfuneralhomes.com.

Bill Darwin Harrison



Bill Darwin Harrison, 76, died January 15, 2014 at his home in Whitewright, Texas. Graveside services were January 18, at Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery, Norman, Okla., with Brad Jordan officiating.

He was born December 17, 1937 at Ardmore, Okla., to William Eby Harrison and Evelyn Jewel Lucas Harrison. He married Nancy Rae Nordstrom on November 17, 1956 at El Reno, Okla. They were married for 57 years.

Mr. Harrison attended Norman High School where he lettered in four sports. While at Norman High School he played on the state championship basketball team. His senior year his family moved to Oklahoma City and he attended Capital Hill High School. He played on the state championship baseball team. He graduated from Capital Hills High School. After High School he played for the St. Louis Cardinals baseball farm team. He was a graduate of Oklahoma City University.

He was retired from Contel Telephone Company where he was a marketing manager. He was a life long golfer and loved playing golf with his sons and grandsons. He was a passionate sports fan and a lifelong OU Sooner fan.

He was a member of the Chickasaw Nation.

Mr. Harrison was an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Whitewright. He loved his family. He was greatly loved and will be missed.

He is survived by wife, Nancy Harrison, of Whitewright; son, Dean Harrison and wife, Tammy; a daughter, Terri Mason and husband, Steve; son, Danny Harrison and wife Kim; daughter, Hayley Jordan and husband Brad; grandchildren, T.J. and Heather Norris, Blake and Callie Harrison, Courtney Mason, Drew Harrison, Taylor Jordan and RYanne Jordan; great-grandchildren, Nick Norris, Noah Norris, and Harper Harri-

son; sister-in-law, Linda Hopper and husband Randy; his parents, Bill and Jewel Harrison; a brother, Jimmy Harrison; and a nephew, Craig Christiansen.

Pallbearers were Randy Hopper, Dean Harrison, Danny Harrison, Steve Mason, Blake Harrison, and Drew Harrison.

Ruth Hazel Gardner Houck



Ruth Hazel Gardner Houck, 94, died Dec. 21, 2013 at Oklahoma City.

She was born January 31, 1919 at Durwood, Okla., to Albert Cletus “Cap” Gardner and Ethel Izora Little. Her mother died when Hazel was only eleven years old, leaving her to care for her father and two younger brothers.

She raised her two siblings while maintaining the home including all cleaning, cooking, laundry, sewing and gardening while still attending school. She married Archie Preston Houck in 1936. To that union three children were born: a son Albert Lavern and two daughters, Betty Louise and Janet Kay. The family moved from Seminole, Okla., to Oklahoma City in the early 1950s until her husband’s employment moved them to Texas and later to Kansas. In 1976, she returned to her home in Oklahoma City when her husband died.

She was proud of her Chickasaw heritage and was a member of the Oklahoma City Chickasaw Elders. A devout Christian, she was a member of Northwest Christian Church. She was a member of PEO and an avid contributor to the HUGS Project, crocheting over 3,000 caps which were sent to the American service members serving overseas.

Mrs. Houck was a lifelong quilter, gardener and seamstress. On her 80th birthday, she became a volunteer at Baptist Hospital working in the floral department delivering flowers to patients. She continued serving in this capacity until she was 92.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Archie; a granddaughter, Krista; and a son-in-law, Charles London.

She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Lavern and Marsha Houck; a daughter, Betty London; daughter and son-in-law, Janet Kay and Richard Johnson; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends.

She leaves a legacy of tremendous love, respect, generosity and compassion. Her strong faith in God was evidenced by her daily living and was easily recognized by all who knew her.

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Lois Scribner
Maxberry

Lois Scribner Maxberry died peacefully December 17, 2013 at Hillcrest Commons in Pittsfield, Mass., just a few days after her 93rd birthday. Her daughter was at her side.

Many currents of American history touched Lois Maxberry's life. She was born December 12, 1920 at Stonewall, Okla., to John Scribner and Katie Stick Scribner. Katie Stick was a full-blood Chickasaw whose name appears on the Dawes Roll of 1902, a census conducted by the Dawes Commission headed by former U.S. Senator Henry L. Dawes, who, as it happened, lived in Pittsfield, Mass. The Dawes Commission was largely responsible for carrying out the aim of the Dawes Act of 1887 to encourage the breakup of Indian tribes and their communally held land and promote the assimilation of Indians into American society. The census was conducted to determine which individuals were accepted as members of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indian Territory so that they could be allotted parcels of land, leaving the rest of Indian land as "surplus" and thus available for non-Indian settlement.

Lois grew up on her family's farm near Stonewall with her older brother Theodore and sister Alma, graduated from Stonewall High School, where she played basketball, and married Jack Maxberry of Allen, Oklahoma.

She was part of the tail end of the Okie migration to California when she moved there with her husband and infant daughter, Bette, in 1941. Since the United States was gearing up for World War II, her husband got work in a shipyard in Richmond before he was drafted into the Army. She and her daughter spent the rest of the war years in Oakland, living in a large Victorian mansion that had been cut up into apartments after that Japanese family who owned it had been interned. Lois was a "Rosie the Riveter" working at a defense plant while her husband's relatives who lived in the same building took care of her daughter.

After World War II and her husband's return from Occupied Japan, Lois lived in Alameda and San Lorenzo, California, before moving to Shafter, California, and then back to Oklahoma in 1956. Lois was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1962 and struggled with mental illness for the rest of her life, but nature and gardening and animals continued to bring her joy.

Lois and Jack Maxberry divorced in 1980 and she moved to Massachusetts in 1998 in order to be near her daughter, Bette Craig, of South Williamstown, who survives her.

She is also survived by the children of her sister, Alma Henry, including Lynn Worcester, Chickasaw Tribal Property and Supply Director; her grandnephew, Wayne Scribner, Administrator of Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing; and Kirk Perry, Administrator of Chickasaw Heritage Preservation, one of the four sons of her cousin, Johnson Perry.

A memorial gathering will be held at her daughter's home on May 17. Anyone wishing to send a memorial contribution in Lois' name may send it to the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Berkshire Branch, 333 East Street, Room 417, Pittsfield, MA 01201 or www.namibc.org.

Mary Louise
"MawMaw"
Taylor



Mary Louise "MawMaw" Taylor, 76, of Ardmore, Okla., died January 20, 2014, at Ardmore. Funeral services were January 22, at The Chapel at Griffin~Hillcrest with Reverend Daniel McLemore officiating. Interment followed in Hillcrest Memorial Park.

She was born January 20, 1938 at McMillan, Okla., to Doyle Albert Mose and Agnes Williams Mose.

She married Woodrow Taylor on May 21, 1951, in Ardmore.

Affectionately known as "Maw-Maw," she was a lifetime resident of Ardmore. She was employed through Excelsior and Cooks Laundry, Marietta Pants Factory, the Chickasaw Nation, and she retired from Uniroyal after 24 years. After retirement, she went to work with South Brook Nursing Home and later had to quit due to health complications. She was a member of Chi-ka-sha Baptist Church.

She is preceded in death by husband, Woodrow Taylor; a son, Woodrow Taylor Jr.; a brother, Wendell Wayne Mose; a great-grandson, Derrick Taylor; parents, Doyle and Agnes Mose; and a nephew, Sheldon Mose.

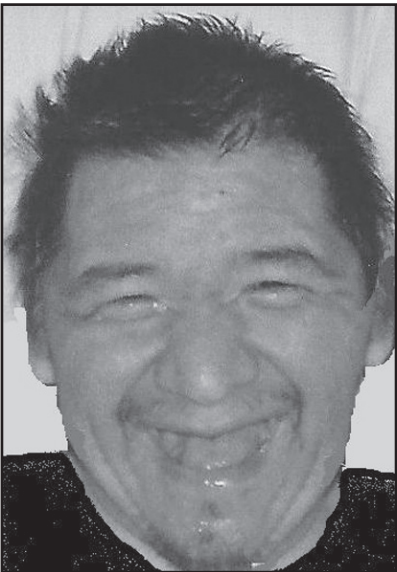
She is survived by sons, Henry Taylor and long time girlfriend, Pam Shurley, and Steve Taylor and wife, Lou; three daughters, Linda Denham and husband, Jerry, Dinah Henson and husband, Mike, and Mary Marris and husband, Phil, all of Ardmore; Sixteen grandchildren; twenty-three great-grandchildren; and two loving pets, Blondie and Princess.

Pallbearers were Randy Carney, Gary Caldwell, Jeremiah Webb, Daniel Pelton, Gaylon Rhynes, and Garrett Coronado. Honorary pallbearers are William Denham, Gregory Marris, Donnie Johnson, Jerry Denham, Mike Henson, Phil Marris and David Taylor.

Those wishing to give donations may make them in her name to Cross Timbers Hospice at 207 C Street NW, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.

Condolences may be left at www.Griffin-HillcrestFH.com.

Terry Lynn Postoak



Terry Lynn Postoak, 51, died December 30, 2013, at Ardmore, Okla. Funeral services were January 2, 2014, in The Chapel at Griffin~Hillcrest with Reverend Vincent Baptiste officiating.

He was born February 17, 1962, at Lawton, Okla. to Jack Postoak and Anna (Brown) Postoak.

He attended Pauls Valley State School and later worked at Sunshine Industries. He enjoyed watching cooking shows and being able to watch his great-nieces and nephews play. He will be remembered as a happy person with a smile for anyone that came to see him. Terry loved attending church with his family so he could spend time with his Church family and sing.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jack Postoak; stepfather, Nathan "Cookie" Wallace Jr.; and a brother, Kent Postoak.

He is survived by his mother, Anna Wallace; a sister, Evelyn Postoak; a sister-in-law, Marquette Taylor; nephews, Derick Postoak and wife, Winter-Star and Rodney Postoak and wife, Ursula; great-nephew, Dasan Postoak; great-nieces, Hailey Postoak and Kendra Postoak; favorite cousin, Linda Underwood; favorite aunt and uncle, Sue and Sam Underwood.

Serving as pallbearers were Derrick Postoak, Rodney Postoak, Joseph Carney, and Lennon Carney.

Condolences may be left at www.Griffin-HillcrestFH.com.

Betty Sue
Hotema Zephier



Betty Sue Hotema Zephier, 83, died January 17, 2014 at Frisco, Texas. Services were January 23, at Sandy Creek Church in Filmore, Okla., with Rev. Allen Beck and Rev. Randy Wade officiating. Interment followed in Sandy

Creek Cemetery.

She was born August 4, 1930 at Hugo, Okla., to Frank Solomon Hotema, Sr. and Lily Mae Brown Hotema.

She married Alvin R. Zephier Sr. December 27, 1972 at Bromide, Okla. He preceded her in death.

Mrs. Zephier enjoyed sewing quilts, the outdoors, the native arts, reading books and watching her favorite programs on television.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Alvin; children, James Paul and Rebecca Ann Wanatee; brothers, Solomon Cyrus Hotema, Sampson McCracken and Frank Hotema; a sister-in-

law Georgine Hotema; and great-nephew Jonathan Hotema.

She is survived by her children Patsy and Rocko Jim, of Nespelm, Wash., Judy and Luther John, of Tishomingo, Okla., Ruth and Matt Benedick, of Ardmore, Okla.; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Bennie Hotema, Byars Baken, Jerry Johnson, Cody Brown, Travis John and Frank Sewell.

Honorary bearers were Matt Benedick, Rocko Jim, Bryen Brown, Cody Reynolds, Joe Jackson, Brandon John and CJ Harjo. Online condolences may be made at craddockfuneralhome.com.

Dr. Smith: Suzy's Tribute

The Lord gave him one last day of his routine, a Monday, no less. Oh how he loved his daily routine. A routine he had established early in life and maintained for over 50 years, refusing even the thought of retirement.

Since God knows the end from the beginning, He knew from before the foundations of this earth that we would be here today and that Daddy, in all his stubbornness, would not let go of this life that he loved very easily to be ushered into the supernatural realm of the heavenlies, where a myriad of people were waiting in great anticipation of his arrival. And OH, what a celebration! I can just imagine the excitement in all the preparations for his arrival!! His mom, dad, brother, all his friends and patients who went before him, and best of all...Jesus!

And now my daddy has been transformed. And if he could speak to you today he would say call upon the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! He would not want anyone to miss out on this. He would say that there is no greater medicine than being in the manifested presence of God, our Creator! There is no greater joy! There is no greater peace! There is no greater Love!

He has also left a legacy. Not only to his beautiful wife, Marilyn and his children, but also to this town. The place he called home. A legacy of strength, health and vitality.

Father, God, we welcome You here today. Holy Spirit You are welcome in this place.

I plead the Blood of Jesus over the wounded soul of this town. Saturate the Blood thru the layers of the souls of everyone present here today. I pray forgiveness for every sin that has come against each and every person here and this town all the way back to Adam. The enemy only has access to us thru sin and trauma, so Father, right now I ask you to come in with Your supernatural power that raised Jesus from the dead and bring healing to our wounded souls and the wounded soul of this town. I thank You for Your dunamis power to bring excellence into our souls as we reach out our hands to You with the same determination as the woman with the issue of blood!

I thank You, Lord, for surrounding this community with Your angels to minister healing to each person. I bind the strongman that comes to steal, kill, and destroy. I command the enemy to flee from this place and I tie the hands of the spirit of greed and offense that so often comes after an onslaught like this. We, as Your people, Father choose to lay our lives at the cross and not be entertained by these kinds of sins.

Make this town a fortress, an open heaven. Make it truly the county of Love, Your Love.

And now Lord I want to turn Your attention to the family. Not only the family her in the front, but the family he worked with every day. Send Your ministering angels into the hearts of each member of our family. Be with Cindy and Brooke as they are now truly orphaned. Send Your Church to comfort them as Your Word says.

And now, Father, I want to lift up the love of his life to You, Marilyn. Embrace her. Cradle her. Lift her up out of this miry clay and set her feet strong on the Rock! She will be like a tree planted by a river, bearing much fruit. I thank You Lord for lifting her up to the atmosphere of the soaring eagles and reassure her of Your love for her with your supernatural peace each day as she walks this out.

Let us remember Daddy, with thankfulness and joy knowing he's celebrating his life as he heard our Heavenly Father say to him, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

Father, We give You all the Glory, all the praise and all the adoration and as we choose to love on You and keep our focus intently on You, You will enlarge the tent pegs of our hearts to enable us to love each other with greater capacity.

For the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand! In Jesus Name I pray. Amen.

We are now collecting stories about Dr. Smith. If you have a story and would like to share it with us we would love to have it! Email it to drsmithstories@gmail.com or mail it to Suzy (Smith) Kozak, P.O.Box 1057, Howe, TX 75459. Thank you and God Bless.

2013-2014 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District

Seat #

1. Toby Perkins
15810 CR 1569
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-2606 Cell
Toby.Perkins@chickasaw.net

2. Nancy Elliott
620 Ann
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-4374
Nancy.Elliott@chickasaw.net

3. Katie Case
14368 County Road 3597
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 272-8385
Katie.Case@chickasaw.net

4. Dean McManus
5980 CR 3430
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 235-2651
Dean.McManus@chickasaw.net

5. Mary Jo Green
2000 E. 14th Place
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 310-4563
Mary.Green@chickasaw.net

Pickens District

Seat #

1. David Woerz
P.O. Box 669
Ardmore, OK 73402
(580) 235-3240
David.Woerz@chickasaw.net

2. Connie Barker
509 SW 7th Ave.
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-4175
Connie.Barker@chickasaw.net

3. Linda Briggs
P.O. Box 241
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-7268
Linda.Briggs@chickasaw.net

4. Shana Tate Hammond
1606 Southern Hills Drive
Ardmore, Oklahoma, 73401
(580) 235-1438
Shana.Hammond@chickasaw.net

Tishomingo District

Seat #

1. Scott Wood
204 East Main Street
Tishomingo, OK 73460
(580) 221-1430
S.Wood@chickasaw.net

2. Tim Colbert
P.O. Box 773
Sulphur, OK 73086
(580) 421-7242
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net

3. Steven Woods
5071 Gray's Road
Davis, OK 73030
(580) 272-7270
Steve.Woods@chickasaw.net

Panola District

Seat #

1. Beth Alexander
PO Box 246
Achille, OK 74720
(580) 272-7850
beth.alexander@chickasaw.net
bethalexander22@hotmail.com



Youth Arts Month

Art Unites All People

ART BUILDS BRIDGES

9A.M. - NOON • SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2014

CHICKASAW NATION COMMUNITY CENTER

700 N. MISSISSIPPI

ADA, OKLAHOMA 74820

LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
December 20, 2013

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Chairperson Steve Woods called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He appointed Ms. Marilyn Coltz to serve as Sergeant-At-Arms Pro Tempore in the absence of Mr. Harold Stick.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL
Members present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods

Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms (Late arrival), Marilyn Coltz, Sergeant-At-Arms Pro Tempore, Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel

Guests present: Wilma Pauline Stout Watson, Mike Watson, Dana Lance, Ron Frazier, Gus R. Porter

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION
Invocation was given by Ms. Green.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - November 15, 2013
A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Case to approve the minutes of November 15, 2013.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
13 yes votes
The motion to approve the minutes of November 15, 2013, carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS
There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
(A) LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair David Woerz
Permanent Resolution Number PR31-002, Amendments to Title 2, Chapter 5, Article F of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Judicial Department Employee Rules and Regulations)
This resolution amends Title 2, Chapter 5 Article F of the Chickasaw Nation Code to provide for Judicial Department employee policies.
A motion was made by Mr. Woerz and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve PR31-002.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
13 yes votes
The motion to approve PR31-002 carried unanimously.
Mr. Woerz concluded his report.

(B) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Dean McManus
General Resolution Number 31-007, Gubernatorial Reappointment - Chickasaw Nation Election Commission (Catherine Wood)
This resolution approves Governor Bill Anoatubby's reappointment of Ms. Catherine Wood to the Chickasaw Nation Election Commission. Ms. Wood will represent the Tishomingo District and fill a term of office ending on December 31, 2016.
A motion was made by Ms. McManus and seconded by Ms. Green to approve GR31-007.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR31-007 carried unanimously.
Ms. McManus concluded her report.

(C) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs
General Resolution Number 31-008, Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Murray County (Cooper Memorial Road)
This Resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property in Sulphur, Murray County Oklahoma, for the expansion of the Chickasaw Nation Cultural Center property.
Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms, arrived and was present for the remainder of the meeting.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Green to approve GR31-008.

Mrs. Alexander voiced her concerns of the amount of money spent on the existing property and purchasing this property without a plan for it.

Members voting yes: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
11 yes votes
Members voting no: Beth Alexander, Katie Case
2 no votes
The motion to approve GR31-008 carried.

General Resolution Number 31-009, Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Pontotoc County (715 East Main)
This Resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property in Ada, Pontotoc County Oklahoma, for the expansion of the Chickasaw Nation property in the Ada Arts District.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Perkins to approve GR31-009.

Mrs. Alexander voiced her concern that the Nation has already invested in the Arts in Sulphur, and in the Arts and Humanities building, in Ada. Because the Nation supported both of these facilities, she felt it was not essential to have a presence in the Ada Arts District.

Members voting yes: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
12 yes votes
Member voting no: Beth Alexander
1 no vote
The motion to approve GR31-009 carried.

General Resolution Number 31-010, Authorization for

Acquisition of Real Property in Pontotoc County (717 East Orchard)
This Resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property in Ada, Pontotoc County Oklahoma, for the expansion of the Chickasaw Nation Community Center property.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Elliott to approve GR31-010.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR31-010 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 31-011, Business Lease G03-3190 and Easement to Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Fire and Rescue Tract in Ada, Oklahoma)
This resolution approves the Business Lease G03-3190 and Easement to Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Pioneer), Post Office Box 539, Kingfisher, Oklahoma 73750-0539 on the Fire and Rescue Tract located in Ada. The term of the lease is twenty-five years beginning on the date of approval by the Secretary of the Interior or her duly authorized representative and the lease rental payment is \$6,000.00 per year. The lease payments will increase once every five years according to the Consumer Price Index or fifteen percent (15%), whichever is greater. The approval of this lease and easement request will allow Pioneer to lease the property to construct and operate a cell phone communication tower. Should Pioneer sublet to a colocator, Lessee shall pay 10% of the rental received from the colocator to the Lessor as profit sharing. The BIA has also required the Lessee to obtain a public liability insurance policy the amount of \$1,000,000.00 and post a bond of \$12,000.00.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Green to approve GR31-011.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR31-011 carried unanimously.
Ms. Briggs concluded her report.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)
Mrs. Alexander commended the crews that worked to remove limbs and debris from the elders' homes from the recent ice storm.

Mr. Mike Watson requested the Elder's Energy Assistance Program be raised to \$1,000 per household, and he suggested the Nation should take over the obligations of the Ada BIA Offices to become more independent.

Chairperson Woods announced the senior luncheon at 10:00 a.m., today.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT
The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:24 a.m. Respectfully submitted,
Connie Barker, Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature
Prepared by: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORTS

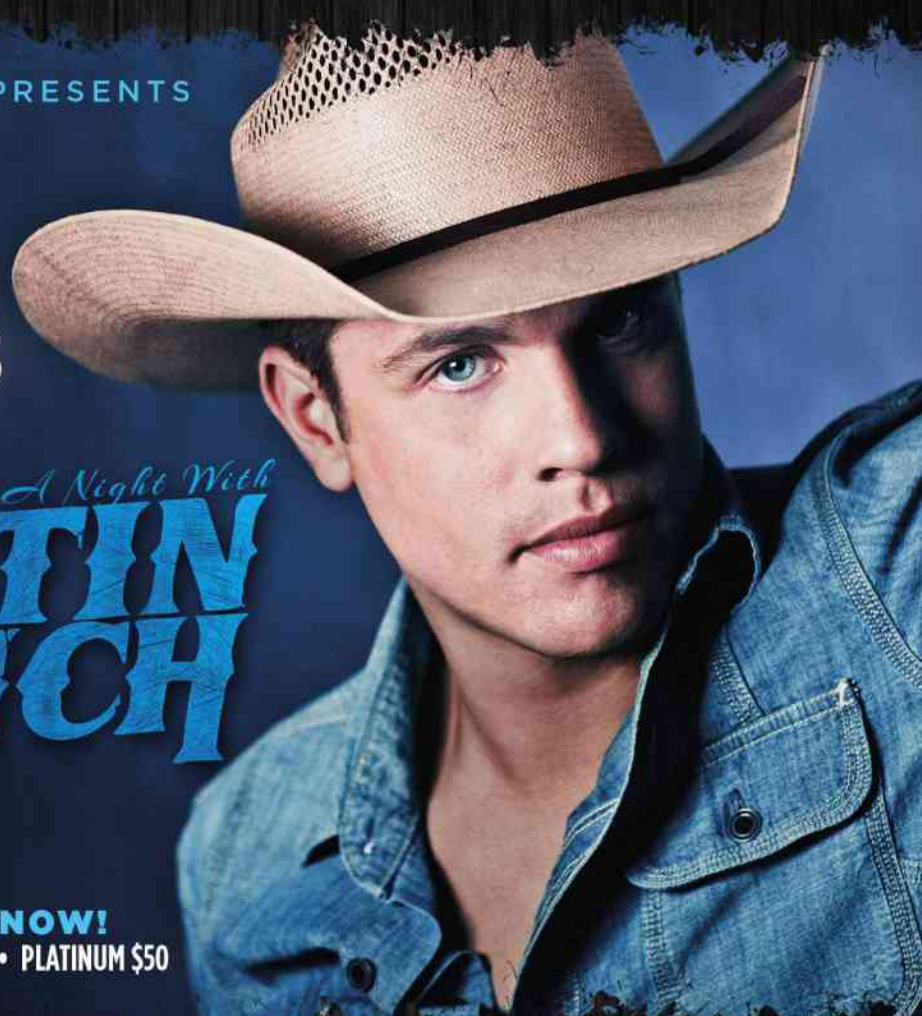
Committee of the Whole Meeting
January 13, 2014
Present: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
Absent: Beth Alexander
Education Committee
January 6, 2014
Present: Nancy Elliott, Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods
Finance Committee
January 13, 2014
Present: Toby Perkins, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, David Woerz, Steve Woods
Health Care Committee
January 6, 2014
Present: Shana Hammond, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
Hunting & Fishing Code
January 6, 2014
Present: Scott Wood, Tim Colbert, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Steve Woods

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SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 8

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